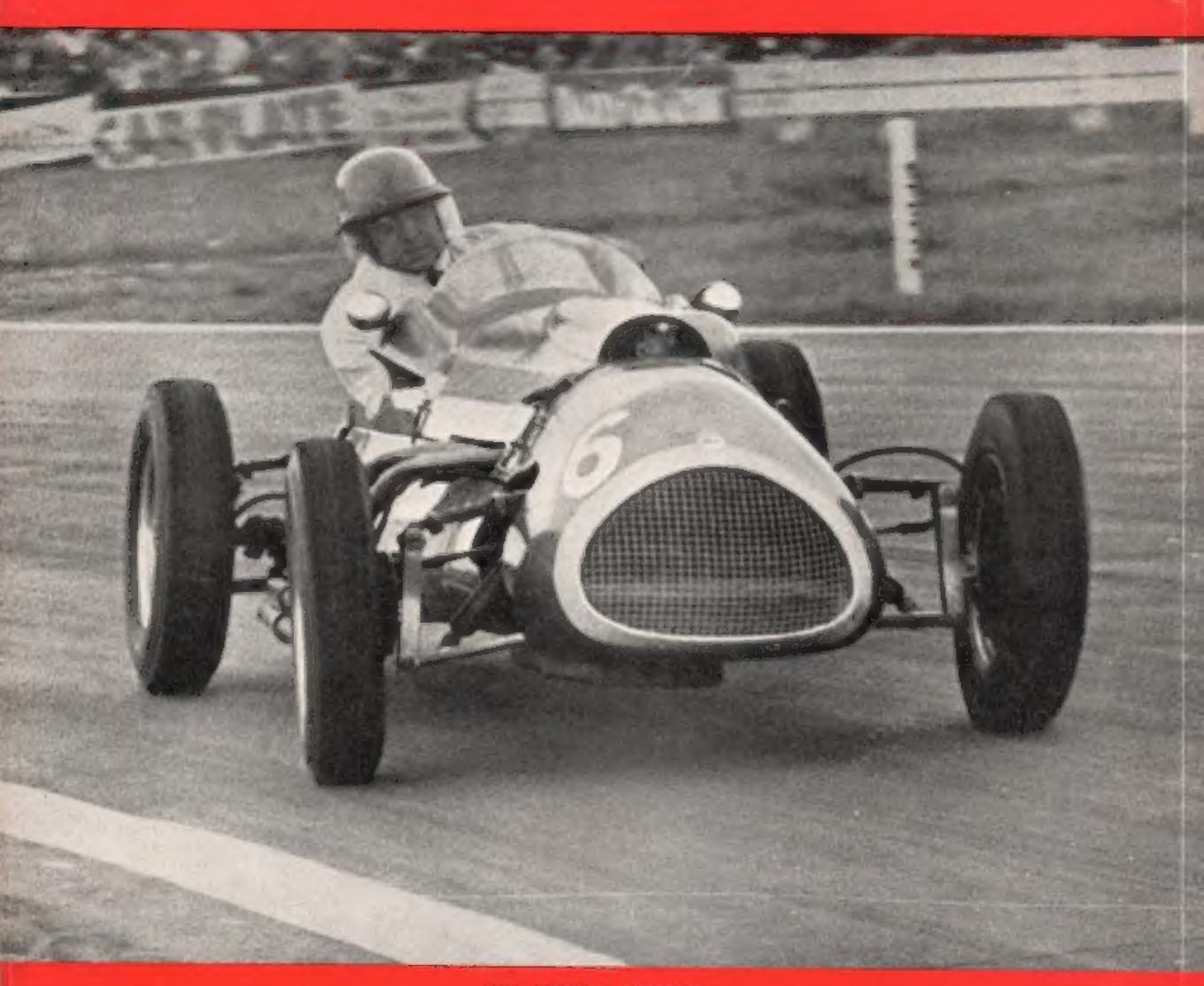
OCTOBER 3, 1952

# AUTOSPORT

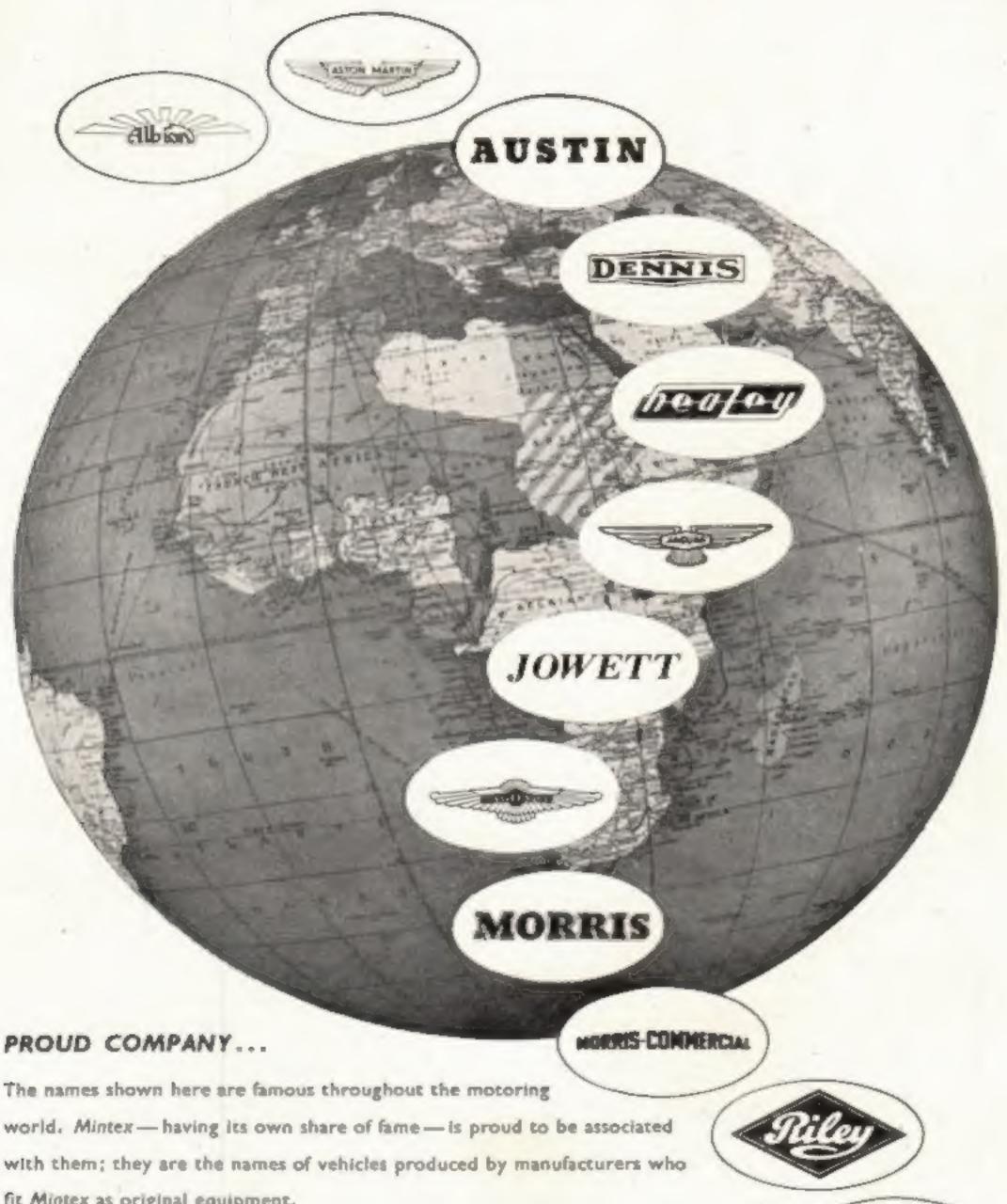
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EVERY FRIDAY
Vol. 5 No. 14

BRITAIN'S MOTOR SPORTING WEEKLY



### IN THIS ISSUE

B.A.R.C. INTERNATIONAL MEETING AT GOODWOOD : RACING IN CANADA : HILL-CLIMBS AT FIRLE AND KNOCKAGH : THE KNOTT CUP TRIAL | SELECTIVE METHODS AT MONZA : THE LAKELAND "200" RALLY

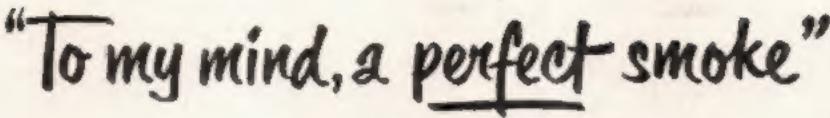


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CLECKHEATON, YORKSHIRE and are obtainable from all Hintex Service Depots and stockists. B.B.A. are also the manufacturers of SCANDURA, the original P.V.C. fireproof conveyor belt.





IRON NERVES and cool split-second judgment are the qualities that bring drivers like 23-year-old Mike Hawthorn to the fore.

Mike, who is scoring triumphs in his 2-litre Cooper-Bristol, is particular about the cigarettes he smokes. "I want a really good cigarette—and I like a cork tip" he says. "That's why, when I smoke, I choose Craven 'A.'"

MIKE HAWTHORN, tearaway winner of the Sussen International Trophy at Goodwood, first Britisher home in the Silverstone Grand Pris, has a great future in his capable hands. He's only one of the many sportsmen today who smoke Craven 'A." 'In this game," says Mike, "you need a cigarette that doesn't affect your throat."

P.S. That each tip really does make a difference, you know. There's a lost more pleasure in a clearatte with an end that's always clean and dry, and from between your light.



CRAVEN A' smooth, clean smoking

# Blakes

THE Northern sports and RACING car specialists offer five desirable Sporting Vehicles

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1929 BENTLEY 41-litre fabric V.D.P. I-scater. New bood, screens, tyres and battery. Mechanically checked through by us. He-fabric ed, repainted and recorpeted. A nice one. Office around 1990.

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CAR PARK	. 21	100	5/-
MOTOR CYCLES	44		2/-
CYCLES			1/-



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# AUTOSPORT

SPORTING BRITAIN'S MOTOR

Vol. 5 No. 14

October 3, 1952

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Published every Friday by AUTOSPORT 159 Praed Street, London, W.2.

Editorial and General Office Advertisement Department

PADdington 7473 FADdington 7671-2

General Manager: PETER BAYLEY Advertisement Monager: NORMAN H. BIGSBY

Annual Subscription: £4 4s. 6d. Direct from the Publishers or all Newsagents.

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# **EDITORIAL**

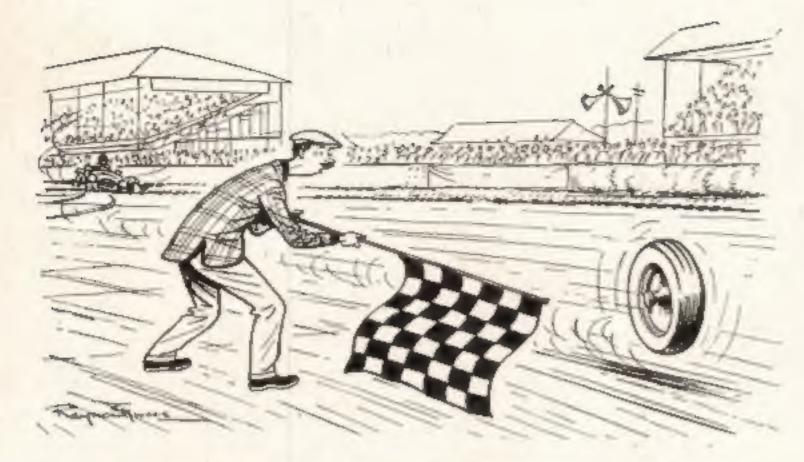
WITH the opening of the Paris Salon this week, the world sees the first genuine "buyers' market" since before the 1939-45 war. No longer can salesmen dismiss inquiries with an airy wave of the hand indicating possible delivery in one's old age. Cars are on stands to be sold, only the very popular types remaining somewhat difficult to obtain without delay.

The market for high-performance cars, one of the most important from a currency-earning angle, has opened up considerably in the past year or two. Several new makes have come forward to challenge the alreadyestablished machines, and it is obvious that the struggle to impress potential buyers will lead to increased participation in International competitions by makers eager to sell their products. Everyone interested in this market realizes the tremendous value of successes in widelypublicized events. Any concern which has sufficient resources to "cash in" on a sudden increase in demand due to outstanding victories will almost certainly attempt to push their products in this manner. This not only applies to individual manufacturers, but to the countries themselves. The gaining of prestige is every bit as important as individual victories. One has only to think of Mercedes-Benz and Porsche as being partly responsible for the new boom in German-built cars, whilst the supremacy of Italy in post-war racing is reflected in a quite remarkable expansion of that country's motor and commercial vehicle industry. France itself has not been too successful in actual racing, but the competition successes of the little Renaults and Dyna-Panhards have definitely played their part in consolidating the market for these machines. British automobile engineering prestige abroad cannot be maintained on past successes alone. It is vital to the market for our sporting and high-performance vehicles that important events are won by British-made cars, otherwise it will become increasingly difficult to convince potential buyers of their true worth.

WHILST the 1-2-3 victory of B.R.M. at Goodwood last Saturday will be acclaimed by supporters, it must be looked at in its proper perspective. The fact remains that, in the absence of Farina and the Thin Wall Special, with the possible exception of Rosier's Ferrari, B.R.M. had nothing in the way of comparable opposition. For three modern Formula 1 cars to finish a race of just over 36 miles cannot, by any stretch of imagination, be called an epoch-making event. Nevertheless it is some comfort to know that the Bourne people have not gone down without a fight. Given genuine financial support, and more independence combined with the presence of a "dictator" on the organizational side, that 1-2-3 might have been achieved earlier on in the more formidable company of a Grand Prix entry.

### OUR COVER PICTURE

BROWN STUDY: Alan Brown at Woodcote Corner, with his Cooper-Bristol, during last Saturday's Goodwood International Meeting. His driving was one of the highspots of the day.



# PIT AND PADDOCK

Les Leston drove his Cooper at the Peterborough M.C.'s Silverstone meeting, and not his Leston Special. Consequently the 5 points awarded to him in the Autosport £200 Championship do not count towards the non-series-built car award.

A MONGST an excellent team of PA commentators at Goodwood last Saturday was James ("Green Cover") Tilling, who led the Singer O.C. team to victory in the recent 750 Club Relay Race.

Ommas for drivers and their cars often elevates the former to the distinguished category. In club magazines recently we have spotted Peter Binns O.M., and Ron Flockhart J.P.

PETER STEWART, who has done well in this season's sports-car events with his 2-litre Aston Martin, has acquired the ex-Tom Meyer two-seater H.W.M. Jim Mayers has sold his Lester-M.G. to U.S.A. for almighty dollars; Lionel Leonard's Copper-M.G. has gone to Bristol driver Gould.

BILL NICHOLSON, possibly the greatest of all "motocross" experts, and international trials rider, is deserting two wheels for four next season. He will drive a Kieft in Formula 3, powered with something special in the way of motors.

Now we know what racing people do in the winter. Billed as an attraction for a local Putney theatre this week is "Harry Lester and his Comedians". Presumably there are also performing monkeys!

A PPARENTLY Enzo Ferrari did not, after all, drive his new car round Monza before the Italian G.P., as we reported. The driver was Franco Cornacchia's son.

Driving a new single-seater at Goodwood last Saturday was Dubliner Richard Odlum, taking part in his first carrace. He hopes to be driving again at Castle Combe tomorrow, to pack in as much experience as possible before the season closes.

GAS - GUIDE:
Novel arrangement
of exhaust pipes
on Stirling Moss's
G-Type E.R.A. to
prevent fumes being blown into the
c o c k p i t. The
secondary pipe is
carried to the rear.



### "AUTOSPORT" £200 CHAMPIONSHIP

Still 45 behind Don Parker who has taken part in a greater number of events. Reg Bicknell's third place at Goodwood now advances the non-series-production car leader to 10th place, which he shares with Bob Gerard. Future events which count towards the Championship are Castle Combe, Charterhall, Brands Hatch and Brough.

Positions as at 30th September

	Driver	Car	Pts.		
1.	Don Parker	Kieft	94		
2.	Stirling Moss	Kieft/Cooper	49		
3.	Les Leston	Cooper/			
		Leston Spl.º	47		
4.	Charles Headland	Kieft/Arnott	39		
5.	George Wicken	Cooper	35		
6.	John Coombs	Cooper	30		
	Ninian Sanderson	Cooper	29		
- 8.	S. Lewis-Evans	Cooper	25		
9.	Alan Brown	Cooper	70		
10.	Bob Gerard	Cooper	15 15		
	R. G. Bicknell	Revist	15		
	Don Truman	Cooper	.14		
12.	Tom Leigh	Cooper	12		
	W. Webb	Cooper	12		
	A. J. Nurse	Cooper	11		
	André Loens	Kieft/Staride	10		
15.	Ken Smith	Smith†	7		
*Includes 2 points for non-series					

production cars.

†Eligible for non-series production car award.

PARIS SALON: A complete and fully-illustrated report of the sporting and high performance cars at the Paris Salon will appear in next week's issue, written by John Bolster and illustrated by George Phillips's camera. Wilson McComb comes over from Ireland to write up the Castle Combe meeting, with pictures by Frankie Penn.



### FISCHER WINS AT AVUS

Heavy rain marred the International race meeting at the very fast Avus track, outside Berlin, last Sunday. The home-based Formula 2 Veritas of Klenk and Riess were defeated by "Rudi" Fischer's four-cylinder Ferrari, which won at an average of over 115 m.p.h. Hans Stuck drove another Ferrari into fifth place.

In the sports-car classes Hugo Hartman in the new streamlined Borgward gained another success for a marque new to motor-racing in the 14-litre class, Fritz Riess (Veritas) won the 2-litre class, and Heinz Brendel's Porsche was the first 1,100 c.c. car.

### RESULTS

Rucing-cars, 128.94 miles: 1, R. Fischer (Ferrari), 115.95 m.p.h.; 2, H. Klenk (Veritas); 3, F. Riese (Veritas); 4, A. Philippe (Ferrari); 5, H. Stuck (Ferrari).

Sports-cars, 750-1,100 e.e.: 1. H. Brendel (Porsche), 77,36 miles at 91,71 m.p.h.; 2. Sauter (Fiat); 3. Finke (Volkswagen), 1,100-1,500 e.e.: 1. H. Hartman (Borgward), 104,39 m.p.h.; 2. Gloeckner (Porsche); 3. Brudes (Borgward), 1,500-2,000 e.e.: 1. F. Riess (Veritas), 108,31 m.p.h.; 2. T. Ulmen (Veritas); 3. Seder (Veritas); 4. Mazino (Ferrari); 5. Klube (BMW).

### 

# SPORTS

#HOTOCOMORDO DO COMO DO COMO DO COMO DE COMO D

### THE INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR, 1953

Some details of the 1953 International Calendar have been issued by the C.S.I. of the F.I.A. The major Grands Prix, or grandes eprences are given in heavy type. A complete list of 1953 events will be published as soon as issued by the C.S.I.

18th. Grand Prix of Argentina (F2).

3rd. Circuit of Lisbon. 10th. Finnish G.P.

14th. Luxembourg G.P. (S). 25th. Grand Prix of Monaco (S).

30th. Indianapolis.

7th. Dutch G.P. (F2, F3, S). 21st. Belgian G.P. (F2).

5th. G.P. de l'A.C.F. (F2 or S).

11th-12th. Hedemora Races, Sweden

18th. British G.P. (F2, F3, S).

August 2nd, German G.P. (F2, S). 16th, Swim G.P. (F2, S).

September 10th-13th, Rally Viking (Norway), 13th, Italian G.P. (F2),

October 26th. Spanish G.P.

November
19th-23rd, Pan-American Road Race
(S. T).
12—Formula 2. F3—Formula 3.
S—Sports, T—Touring.

### THE BARI MEETING

This year's Bari G.P. meeting, run last Sunday over the Lungomare Circuit, was exclusively for sportscars, and resulted in a victory in the over 2-litre class for "Chico" Landi, of Brazil, driving a 2.3-litre Ferrari Second, 20 seconds behind, was Anglo-American Tom Cole with the 2.7-litre Ferrari, and third came Castellotti (Ferrari). Fastest lap was put up by Robert Manzon (Gordini), who finished 12th, a place ahead of his compatriot André Simon, driving a Ferrari.

Oscas scored a resounding 1-2-3-4 win in the 1,100 c.c. class, winning driver being Franco Bordoni. Berardo Taraschi (Giaur) won the 750 c.c. class from Casella's Stanguellini by over a minute.

### RESULTS

Over 2-litres: 1, Francisco Landi (2.3 Ferrari), 1 hr. 6 mins, 53 secs, (77.65 m.p.h.); 2, Tom Cole (2.7 Ferrari), 1 hr. 7 mins, 13 secs.; 3, Castellotti (2.7 Ferrari); 4, Sterzi (2.7 Ferrari); 5, Biondetti (Ferrari); 6, Capelli (8V Fiat),

Up to 1,100 e.e.: I. Bordoni (Osca), 41 mins. 44.2 secs. (74.65 m.p.h.); 2, Bagani (Osca); 3, Denezian (Osca); 4, Francois (Osca).

Up to 750 e.e.s 1, Taraschi (Giaur), 1 hr. 45 mins, 0.2 secs. (69.25 m.p.h.); 2. Casella (Stanguellini); 3, Bandini (Bandini).

Fastent Lap: Manzon (2.3 Gordini), 2 mins. 35.7 secs. (80.1 m.p.h.),

THE A.C. of Argentina have asked the F.I.A. to include the Buenos Aires G.P.—a Formula 2 race next year—in the World Championship series of events.



4 A.M.: A fine photograph of an XK 120

—C. J. Toomer's—
about to start the driving test at Llandrindod Wellx during the London M.C.'s successful London Rally on 19th/20th September.

the prototype manufacture of the first unit, which will be a multicylinder of entirely new design,

which we are confident will give 80 h.p. more than our present 2-litre

racing-engine, which was designed initially in 1934, and has been run-

ning in races in only a slightly

modified form from its incep-

Mr. Taylor quotes some interest-

# SELECTIVE METHODS AT MONZA

Count Lurani Explains the Reasons for Adopting the "24 Fastest Drivers" Scheme for the 1952 G.P. of Italy

FOLLOWING the editorial in AUTOSPORT (issue of 12th September),
which referred to the system
adopted by the A.C. of Milan for
the Monza race this year, Count Ing.
G. Lurani, Chairman of the
Competitions Committee of the A.C.
of Milan, and a steward for the race,
has communicated with us giving
more detailed information as to the
facts of the affair.

Count Lurani states: "In the official regulations of the 23rd Grand Prix of Italy, copies of which were sent to all possible entrants between 2nd and 3rd August, it was said in Article 3—on purpose printed with heavier lettering—that 'only the 24 fastest drivers would be admitted to start.' The regulations were also translated into French.

"I believe that the race promoters had every right to allow in the race only the really fast machines. This right is also used at Indianapolis, where only 33 cars are allowed to start, and this fact has never suggested any unfavourable comment.

"In the official practice the last of the 24 fastest cars had lapped in a time almost 12 seconds slower than the fastest ever, and we feel that on a fast course like Monza, such difference was enough. To all other entrants and drivers that had taken part in the official practice and had been left out of the selected 24, the Monza race promoters paid 50 per cent. of the starting money that had previously been agreed with them, and we feel that this gesture was very generous, because the pro-

moters were surely not obliged to this payment, as the rules were quite clear and that 'starting money' means exactly money to be paid after a start.

"I am not sure that at Indianapolis any financial provision whatsoever exists for drivers that fail to qualify for the race.

"It is a usual habit with drivers never to read the regulations! Having been a racing driver myself, I know this rather too popular attitude that I also have shared."

(Signed) COUNT ING. G. LURANI. Whilst agreeing with most of what Count Lurani says, AUTOSPORT feels that the selective method used is open to criticism. We are assured by the team manager of one of the cars which just failed to qualify, that although the regulations included the clause regarding the 24 fastest drivers, the original terms of contract did not stipulate actual starting money. It was believed that the offer and acceptance of a figure was equivalent to a contract, and that there should be no question as to whether or not "starting money" as such should be paid. In any case, the drivers accepted for Monza could not know how many altogether had been asked to go by the promoters.

We feel that there should be no necessity for adopting a selective method by inviting more drivers than it is intended to permit to start. By all means invite reserves, but give them to understand that they will only start in the event of a full field not being available.

ing figures checked on a Heenan and Froude dynamometer by independent, qualified engineers, who also certified the accuracy of the installation. The standard 2-litre racingengine has produced between 155 and 158 b.h.p., and the 1953 version will increase these figures by 22

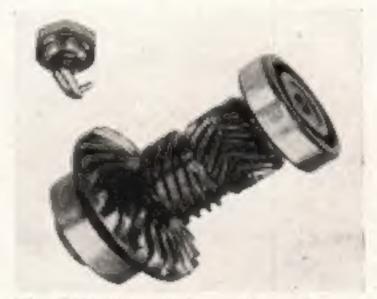
tion...."

b.h.p. The experience gained from this engine will be useful in the development of the Formula 1 unit.

The Alta chief further states that the new 2½-litre engine will be available to any formula racing-car manufacturer who satisfies the concern that his intentions are serious, and that he has had sufficient experience and backing to make a successful formula racing-car, provided the engine behaves itself as it should.

### THE CHIP MAGNETPLUG

Runder all conditions has long been a problem. However, a magnetist device has been successfully used on the Continent for several years following the manufacture in Sweden of a new type of steel which has these properties.



The Chip Magnetplug with a piece of broken gear-tooth adhering to it.

The "Chip" Magnetplug prevents damage to engines by attracting particles of metal which might otherwise be circulated in the lubrication system. Magnetplugs, to be fitted in the sump, gearbox and/or rearaxle casing of cars can be supplied in this country by Parion Products, Ltd., Parion House, Witham, Essex.

# GEOFFREY TAYLOR AND FORMULA RACING

In our correspondence columns recently several readers have put up suggestions for a pool of resources to produce an engine for the new Formula 1. Geoffrey Taylor of the Alta Car and Engineering Co., Ltd., does not subscribe to these views, and would like to make it clear that his concern has no intention of joining or associating itself with such a scheme.

Mr. Taylor says: "We have all recently seen the results of cooperative designing and manufacturing, which has reacted to the great disadvantage, and one might almost say the ridicule, of the British racing-car, . . . "

He continues: "Our experience of the design and manufacture of racing engines dating back to long before the war has been not entirely unrewarded, and we can say that since the war, at any rate, our engine has been the most successful produced in this country. The new formula will demand a very exceptional engine indeed if it is going to be satisfactory in International races, and to this end we are commencing

# THE FOURTH LAKELAND RALLY

Dr. Hardman (Dellow) Makes Best Performance in Lanes & Cheshire C.C. Event — Team Award to P. Reece, K. Bancroft and J. Reece

Cheshire Car Club, this major northern closed invitation rally must surely be renamed the "Llandudno Rally", as since 1949 this hospitable seaside resort together with its famous promenade, and the North Wales terrain, has been its venue; and judging by its great success this year, even under terrible weather conditions, it will be a long time before it reverts to the Lakeland arena.

A record entry of 134 was received for this two-day event (27th/28th September), most classes being well supported, though in view of the opportunity of competing in the Rhyl Motor Club's Regal Trophy trial, which always takes place after the Sunday tests of the Lakeland, the expected large entry of specials did not materialize, only four cars making their appearance; but perhaps it is a little too soon for all the "roadworthy" mods, to

have taken place. One greatly encouraging feature of the entry list was to observe that no fewer than 59 were novices, a very healthy state of affairs. From starting points at Manchester,

Birmingham, Leeds and Llandudno, entrails departed early on Saturday morning to face two days of consistent rain and cold winds, which did not let up for an instant. The first two routes converged at the Cat and Fiddle, near Buxton, whence all led to Nantwich to start the Rally proper, where the average speed was reduced from 30 m.p.h. to 24 m.p.h., an idea of things to come. Early arrivals at Nantwich reported thick mist and zero visibility on the "Cat" which caused many competitors without local Cheshire knowledge to be late at the first time control, as there was only one toute via Macclesfield and

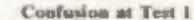


TEST TWO: C. M. Needham's beautiful Lancia Aurelia on the line at Lake Vyrnwy during the Lancs and Cheshire C.C.'s Lakeland Rolly.

Holmes Chapel which agreed with the route card mileage—and short cuts over wild terrain did not pay off! The Morgan boys, Reece, Ray and Bancroft reported an easy run, while Dennis Scott ran out of petrol but was in on time. The next 40 miles led through Wrenbury, Malpas, Worthenbury and Overton, to Glyn Ceiriog, down the

Ceiriog Valley to Llanwmon D.C., up and over the old road to the deserted chapel at Efail-Rhyd.

Here was situated Test 1, consisting of a fork test on good surface. Cars were started from line A with engine running, proceeded forward for 40 yards, reversed uphill over line B, then again forward to stop astride line C.



Unfortunately the marshala here were not quite au fait with the regulations, misleading several competitors over the finish which they stated to be "flying". On being confronted with the regulations the following prize remark was forthcoming: "That's right-fly to line C and stop astride it". In all seriousness here, two competitors, both of whom should have known better, dispensed with passengers, entailing disqualification at a later date. This test was marred for the early numbers by a torrential rainstorm. AUTOSPORT must apologize to Mr. Childs in the big Humber for its representative behaving like a clot and baulking his first run, his only excuse being that he was waved on to proceed.

Better times in the classes were J. R. Hall (Morris), 24.2 secs.; J. E. O'Hanion (Renault), 22 secs.; P. Clegg (Special), 18.9 secs.; W. C. Fielding (Vauxhall), 21.2 secs.; C. R. Hardman (Dellow), 18.3 secs.; and J. C. Wallwork (Standard), 21.5 secs.

On from here to Llaurhaidt, Y.M. and up through the mountains to Lake Vyrnwy where, after a leisurely drive round the lake with its magnificent mountain scenery, unfortunately covered by mist, appeared Test 2, which was a



TEST SIX: "Doe" Hardman, overall winner of the Rolly, in action on the promenade at Llandudno. Large numbers of spectators gathered to watch this test.

The Fourth Lakeland Rally—continued dead engine start from line A, cross line B, reverse back, forward again to stop astride line C; a total distance of some 60 yards. No great difficulty was experienced here except for some erratic starter motors; poor Cordingly's BMW just would not fire. Good times again were

motors; poor Cordingly's BMW just would not fire. Good times again were B. J. Smith (Ford), 16.4 sees.; J. Nightingale (Special), 17.2 sees.; J. F. Livingstone (Standard), 16.2 sees.; D. G. Scott (M.G.) and C. R. Hardman (Dellow), 14 sees.; J. C. Wallwork (Standard), 14.6 sees.;

P. B. Reece (Morgan), 13.6.

This was followed by a mountain journey with time controls via Pen y Bont Fawr, Llanfillin, Dinas Mawddwy to the foot of the famous Bwich y Gross test hill where was laid with low cunning the scene of Test J. This was a straight acceleration test from 40 yards before the well-known hairpin with its in 3 turn 40 yards after same, which involved the use of much power and a sliding technique. Fastest here were J. G. O'Hanlon (Renault), 19.1 sees.; J. S. Nightingale (Special), 17.3 sees.; J. Recce (Ford), 18.8 secs.; C. R. Hardman (Dellow), 17.1 secs.; J. C. Wallwork (Standard), 19.1 secs.; K. Bancroft (Morgan), 16 secs.

From here started some 60 miles of motoring against the watch through Bala, Cerig y Druidian, Llansannan, etc., and finally to Llandudno, none of which was very troublesome, though mechanical trouble attacked Ted Cunningham (Allard) and C. Hold (V-8), causing later

In Test 4 cars started from line A. went forward to pass between two pylons, a reverse through same, then forward through a tight chicane composed by straw bales to a flying finish, the whole electrically timed. Most com-petitors drove carefully and very efficiently, great praise going to Mesdames Appleyard and Newton, who handled their XK 120 to the manner born, while the Morgans, too, were Ken Bancroft really got his superb. teeth (new ones) into his run with a magnificent B.T.D.; a model performance. Ted Cunningham (Allard), in a wild drive, demolished the electrical timing gear, barrier and all, very nearly taking poor Jack Twyford, whose apparatus it was, with him en passant, Times, again by classes, were J. P. O'Hanlon (Ronault), 19 J sees: J. S. Nightingale (Special), 17.3 secs.; J. Reece (Ford). 18.8 sees.: C. R. Hardman (Dellow), 17.1 secs.; J. C. Wallwork (Standard), 19.1 sees.; K. Bancroft (Morgan), 16 secs.

### Hardman the Lender

When the first day's times were displayed, the position of the overall leaders was C. R. Hardman. 49.4 marks. P. B. Reece. 49.3; and D. Howard, 50.4. Sunday morning again was a scaker as the first competitors left at 8 a.m. on a short 45-mile route, whilst the hardworking organizers set the scene on the promenade for the real "do", the final test.



SPECIALS CLASS WINNER: Percy Clegg won the Great Orme Trophy for best performance with a Special. Here he is at Test 1, on the old chapel road at Etail-Rhyd.

retirements. Dennis Scott had an adventure with a prime porker which showed amazing acceleration, went into a full four-wheel drift, lost control and disappeared at high speed through a hedge backwards, the telling of which caused great hilarity!

Next came the arrival lest on Llandudno's West Promenade, an ideal venue as a three-foot concrete wall runs both sides, behind which multitudes of spectators braved the elements to watch some fine driving. The route average on the rough stuff around Llanrwst was dropped to 18 m.p.h. and the going was a little stiff for the saloons, causing two or three retirements. Poor John Wallwork, who on past performance would have been a good bet for the big saloon class, lost a wheel, hub and all, but appeared later all O.K. again. F. Roden, with a Morris, retired with gearbox trouble and several others could not face the final tests; hard lock so close to the end.

In Test 5, cars started from line A.

with engine running, proceeded forward to stop astride line B, reverse to stop astride line C, continue forward to stop astride line D, reverse to stop astride line E and forward to stop in a box. This was a most complicated test, well performed on the average. Times by classes were R. A. Hopkinson (M.G.), 26.4 sees.; J. Reece (Ford), 28.3 sees.; P. Clegg (Special), 24.5 sees.; T. Edmenton (Sunbeam-Talbot), 32.6 sees.; E. I. Appleyard (XK 120), 26.9 sees.; and J. P. O'Hanlon (Renault), 27.9 sees.

### Big Draw

Test 6 was the one the crowd of many hundreds of spectators who braved the elements from 10.30 a.m., till nearly 2 p.m. were waiting for -real action stuff. Starting from line A, care proceeded through an avenue of straw bales between two pylons, round a single pylon, return through the two pylons, through the avenue of straw bales, to stop and reverse in the centre, continuing out of the avenue with a bad right-hand turn and back to a flying finish. The great problem was the turn out of the avenue, which was just not on without sliding the back round, or a reverse. Here the experts starred, Peter Reece with the Morgan making his second run a perfect example with beautifully controlled slide, to record 34.5 sees., this remaining B.T.D. until near the end.

The XK 120s driven by the Appleyards, Jack Broadhead and Miss Newton were all perfect, but they could not better Reece's time in the Saloons, F. M. Marsh (Healey) made a beautiful run, so again did O'Hanlon's little Renault; Charlie Hardman was good, just good enough it seemed, by quick reckoning, to keep the lead. Jack Reece in the Anglia was neat, Ben Hepton in the Silverstone Healey fast, then just before the end it happened; Dennis Scott (TD), who had unfortunately misjudged the previous test, broke the record by a full second, his slide out of the avenue a joy to behold. This was a perfect run, unfortunately too late to put him in the

unning.

Thus ended a well organized and very enjoyable Rally. Great tribute must be paid Ken Bailey and Eric Bloor, who, working like beaven, yet still had time to be courteous and helpful over times and queries. To these two gentlemen may your scribe render thanks; if the same treatment could be met always, life would be a bed of roses.

FRANCIS PENN.

### RESULTS

fork Harrop Memorial Trophy (Best performance); C. R. Hardman (Entloye), 109.7 marks.

B. K. Thompson Truphy (Closed cars up to 1,400 c.c.s J. S. O'Hanlan, 126 marks.
Jill Lifley Truphy (Open cars up to 1,000 c.c.):

Jill Lifley Trophy (Open curs up to 1,000 c.c.): 2. R. Hull, 144.2 marks.

Riley Trophy (Closed cars 1,000 c.c. to 1,500 c.c.s J. Revec, 125.7 marks.

Lukeland Tropler (Open cars, 1,000 to 1,500 c.c.): K. N. Lee, 117.2 marks.

Socky@le Tropley (Closed cars user 1,500 c.c.):

T. A. Smith, 140.9 marks.
Tom Leigh Trophy (Open cars near 1,500 e.c.):

P. B. Rette, 111.5 marks.

Great Orme Trophy (Specials); P. Clean, 119.4 marks.

Novice Awards: (Closed corele C. M. Watsun-Smyth, 142.6 marks.

(Open cars): K. W. Fleuriot, 124 marks.

Tenon Award: P. B. Rence
K. Baneroft
J. Rence

Ludies' Awarde Miss A. Newson.

# HAVE WE SEEN THE LAST OF FIRLE HILL-CLIMB?

Depressing Forecast from Bentley D.C. President

Apparessing the crowd at the Bentley D.C.'s annual Invitation Hill Climb at Firle, near Lewes, last Sonday Stanley Sedgwick, club President, drew attention to the disappointing number of Bentleys in the list of entrants a mete-15 out of a total of some 60 entries. He attributed this sad state of affairs in soc almost entirely due to finance and propally due to the question of tyres. He remarked that the Club was going to make a very strong and reasoned appeal to the R A.C. to remove the bin on co moutded and retreaded tyres for events of this nature. He said that the whole season had seen many clubs embarramed by the lack of entries for appead events which, in a strong measure, was due to the lyre question. The matter would be brought up at the R.A.C. Club Conterence in October and he sincerely hoped that other clubs would support thesi appeal. He felt that he was not the only one to foresce the end of club sport is we all know it, early next season, unless something was done to right this matter He ended, however, on a more optimized note, thanking the competions who were there and wishing all present a good day's sport and what he hoped would not be the last hill-climb at this wonder ful spot

The entry was more of a mixed bag than usual, although the familiar invited clubs were in attendance in some strength including the Aston Martin Owners, the frazer-blash "Chain Gang the Lagonda Car Club, the Lancia Motor Club, the various marques of the Brighton and Hove Club, and, for the first time, beautiful old vintage and veteran Rolls Royces of the 20-Chost

Club



MITHER) In the Aston Martin Mk. II and International 13-litre class at Earle P. M. Sams here diding out on a slappery right-number finished third. A sect slower than D. Edwards

Outstanding runs of the day from the Bentleys were those of Peter Woodley (long chastis 41), 33 socia, which was afterwards corrected to 34 secs, to the clude a penalty of one second for a two "trigger happy" start; the special 45-11 G. Burton and Major J, H. Bailey clock ing 33 uses, and 32 sees, respectively; the amazingly fine run of Gerry Crozier with hi, Harnato-Hussan clocking 30.8 past 6 sees shower than his own previous record for the hill of 30 20 and I was Cooke with a movern 4, outer 35.2 sees. The best of the Aston Marios was Bill Elwell Smith who put up a time of 36 sees and beat his own AMDIC record for the hill of 36.51, but challeng ing him very closely was Leslie Marr with his Ulster clocking a best time of 16 2 seen

For the list one on Aston Martin OB2 compand and in the hands of its owner could not better W4 nees hot when driven as a BDC odds and ends The fustest "Chain Ganger" was R. Truscott, but I do not think that the regulation F-N motor was under the bonnet so it is fairer to take the best genome F-N time as R. C. C. Palmer's 34 sees. Both the Lagondas of Goodhew and Hunt made almost faultless clambs of 33 sees, and 33.2 sees, respectively, with first freeman Wright, a well-known performer putting in his last run in a deluge of rain in the excellent time of 33.4 sees.

the 8 D C, added once more to their bad luck with the weather history, when a really solid downpour commenced as the care were being marshalled for the second runs. In consequence of the Niagara effect of the hill at times—one almost imagined one was at Shelsley nearly all the second runs were much slower. This was really unkind as most of the drivers were saving their best efforts, in the usual way, for the last

May we hope that Stanley Sedgwick's prea does not go unanswered and that this very popular and extremely aporting event is saved for the Nationa Calcuda.

D. (

### RESELTS Official Co

Political to Official Confirmation)

Alltre Bentlerse A. N. Kermand, 55 6 secs. 44 filtre 110 H, 10 ins.in I, Peter W. series, 14 2 A. I. How 4) 4. 41 filtre not effective tor nisoset; 1 J. H. Back.

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Any Makes driven by B.D.C. Members 1 12

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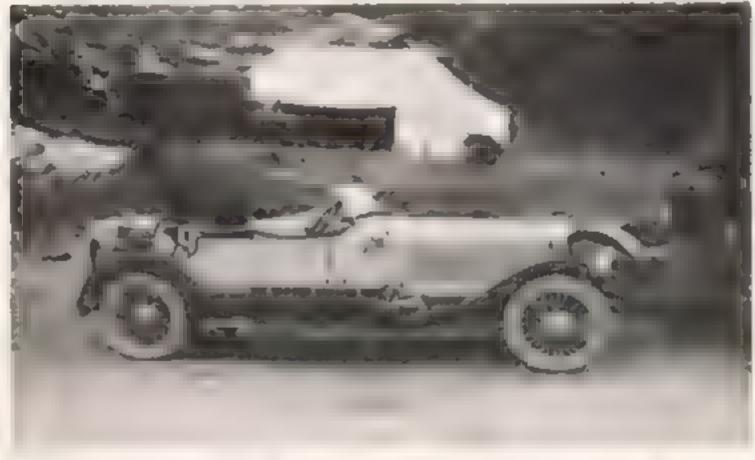
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Ralls Rouse 20 20-15 25-30 and Wealth: W F



ALPINE ROLLS, E. E. Sears's magnificent per Great But 7400 c. .
Alpine' Rolls-Royce clocked 50 6 sect at Firle



# CHAPPELL WINS KNOTT CUP TRIAL

THE West Hants and Dorset C.C.'s Knott Cup Trial is generally reckoned to be one of the toughest events in the trials calendar, and this year's meeting on Sunday last proved to be no exception. Situated in the centre of Bovington Heath, in Dorset, the course consists of sand, heath and a particularly clinging type of black mud. Presiding genius (possibly less fortunate competitors have another word in mind!) is Onslow-Bartlett, who can usually be seen on the day before, going round the course on a bull-dozer, just to make things more interesting. The course was arranged as usual, in three sections; The Bowl, Gallows and Heather, with the much discussed Moto-Cross as a final test. The latter consisted of going from points A to B and back again, which sounds easy on paper, but, after the heavy rain which had falen during the past few days, most people had a job to keep going at all, let alone get round against the stopwatch!

The weather was unkind. It poured with rain during the morning session—not just a gentle drizzle, but a biting downpour, driven hard by a cold wind, which whipped it into people's faces, and made visibility difficult just when it was most needed. After a great struggle, the sun came out in time for the final test

Most of the hills in the "Bowl" section were more or less straightforward, but there was one nasty effort, zig-zagging upwards over a series of steps, which caught practically everyone. It was a matter of lock instead of power, and the cautious approach paid dividends. Wally Waring, last year's winner, was among the outstanding performers here

From the Bowl, the cars headed for Gallows, which was, as usual unclimbable, and then on to the final group of his, known as "Heather". It was on this section that Pike's E.P.S., put a fan blade through its radiator, and lost all its water. The owner, after much

MOTO-CROSS: The novel final test in the form of a timed cross-country run proved highly spectocular. Here J Bullivane's Vauxford takes to the water.

searching, found a large jug of rather utilitarian appearance, with which he refilled at regular intervals

From "Heather", competitors went to the final test, the Moto-Cross, first handing in their route cards, and drawing final instructions from marshals, who directed them with the air of bidding farewell to someone embarking on a long and perilous voyage.

From outward appearances, it was highly spectacular. Cars were sliding broadside, in all directions, at full throtte diving through water splashes in great sheets of fixing mind and spray, with steam and water going everywhere, all much to the delight of the spectators, whose facial expressions were almost as entertaining to watch as those of the drivers'

Outstanding among the early runs was W C Cuff who was airborne most of the time and, on one occasion, completely disappeared from view in a huge cloud of spray Waring went through confidently, as did Rumfitt and Chappell

THE BOWL. Cyril Corbishley (LMC) tackling a section during the West Hants and Dorset Club's Knott Cup Trial over their classic course on Bovington Heath

both award winners, Ron Faulkner (Paul Spl) fairly tore through, as did Lawson on the Lotus, both working overtime with the wheel. A number of unfortunates bogged-in during the early stages, and a perspiring crowd of marshals worked hard on the end of a long rope

The later runs were enlivened by the final obstacle, a tank trap, which had filled with water, and had broken up, very cunningly, below the surface, leaving a deep pit, into which car after car sank, gurgling despairingly, water washing into the cockpit, and, in some cases, over the rear wheels! Fortunately, the breakdown lorry was standing by, and several competitors crossed the finishing line at the end of a rope, notably Faulkner, and the unfortunate Dees, who, at one fearful moment, looked as though he was going to submerge completely.

Leslie Bartlett, with his new and astonishing special, decided that he was going to drown the motor anyway. and did it in great style, to the great joy of all the spectators. After the last car had completed the course, the unfortunate Press Secretary had the unenviable task of working out the results from sheets that were rendered a pulp by rain, with most of the information washed away into a meaningless blur. wonder, then, that the results given out soon after mx o'clock could only be taken as provisional, and are to be confirmed later. A. H.

### PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Knott Cupt R. Chappell (1,172 Cotton 111), 405 ft. unclimbed.

Vintorn' Cup: A. B. Rumfitt (1,180 Cotton II), 557 ft

Ship Cup: R. W. Faulkner (1,172 Paul Spl.), 604 ft

Chast It E. G. Spence (1,172 Spence VII), 677 (1

Class II: No award

Cinst file E, B. Wadsworth (1,172) Ford S), 732 ft

Simon Trophy (Best performance in the Moto-Cross): To be announced later





# JOHN COBB

In John Cobb, Britain has lost the best ambassador she ever had. As "Fastest Man on Earth", he had a fame throughout the world that no other motor sporting personality has ever approached in spite of the many years during which he was right at the top of the tree, he had a genuine modesty, one might almost say humility, that made everyone who had the pleasure of meeting him feel at once that they had made a true friend

One cannot mention John Cobb without speaking of Brooklands, for it was there that he made his name His first appearances were in the mechanic's seat of Ernest Fldridge's enormous Isotta-Maybach, and when he became a driver himself, he always had a preference for big motors. In the early 1920s he was a regular competitor in Warde's 10-litre Fiat (now owned by Anthony Heal), and he then came right to the front in one of the 3-litre T T Vauxhalls

Around 1930, the very fast 10htre, 12-cylinder Delage (now owned by Sam Clutton) became his mount, and his many duels with Sir Henry Birkin's Bentley will never be forgotten. In 1933 he appeared with an even bigger car, the 23-htre Napier-Railton. With this machine, he broke and rebroke the Brooklands lap record, in close competition with Oliver Bertram's Barnato-Hassan. It is fitting that his final figure—143 4 m p h.—will stand for ever as Brooklands' best.

Subsequently, he drove a fourwheel driven, twin Napier aeroengined car, also of Reid Railton's design, in which he was the first man to achieve 350 m p.h., and subsequently 400 m p.h., on land. His land speed record stands today at a two-way average of 394.2 m.p.h

Seeking new worlds to conquer, he then took to the water, in his Railton • designed, jet - propelled "Crusader". It was in this machine that he lost his life at Loch Ness on 29th September, 1952, Just before he died, he was the first man ever to exceed 200 m.p.h. on water, and although this is not an official record, the honour will always be his.

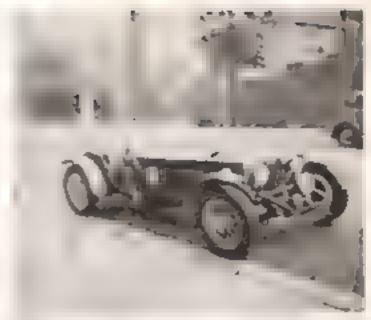
### GORDINI WIN AT AGEN

The French International sportscar race on the Agen Circuit last Sunday resulted in victory for Maurice Trintignant in his 2.3-litre sports Gordins, who beat Pagnibon's Ferrari by a comfortable margin in the 33.55-mile race. Jaguars driven by Simone, Heurteaux and Roboly occupied third, fifth and seventh places

Armengaud (Osca), Rispal (Renault) and Barthe (Simca) all recorded class wins, while Trintignant's lap at 53 56 m p h. proved the fastest of the day

### RESULTS

Over 1,500 e.e.: 1, Maurice Trintignant (2.3 Gordini), 38 mins, 48 ee.s. (52.5 m.p.b.); 2, Pagnibon (2.7 Ferrari), 39 mins, 21 tecs., 3, Simone (XK 120 Jaguar), 2 laps behind; 4, Potzi (1.4 Cisitalia); 5, Heuriaux (XK 120 Jaguar), 6, Renaldo (2.3 Ferrari).



OFF TO THE U.S.A.: Donald Monro's tomous 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)-litre Invicta, "Red Gauntlet", has been purchased by Harvey Beeler, of Houston, Texas, who drove it on a 4,000 mile tour through Europe recently

Fintest Lap: Frintignant, 1 min, 11 secs. (53.56 m p.h.).

Oscal, 41 mins, 11 secs. (49 50 m.p.h.). 2 Barths (11 Simcal); 3, Pousse (Dyna-Panhard); 4, Desbruchard (Dyna-Panhard); 5, Vidilles (Renault)

Fastest Lap: Peron (1.4 Osca), 1 min. 14 secs. (51.80 m p.h.).

### "THE AUTOCAR" DIARY, 1953

A The Autocar Motorists' Diary contains much reference material of use to both ordinary and sporting motorists. Those driving abroad will appreciate the information on Continental conditions, giving rules of the road in various countries, conversion figures, data on road signs, etc.; British highways, mileages to London, steep hills, and driving signals are all dealt with, and face results are also included

Morosco leather, 6s. 14d, P.T. inclusive Publishers are lliffe and Sons Ltd., Dorset House, Stamford Street, London, S.E.1

47 MONTEHERY John Cohh with his highly successful pero-engined Numer Railton during an early try-out on the Monthery Piete de Vitesse in 1933. He broke a large number of records pre-war, and twice won the BRDC, 500 Miles Race with this car.

W R Morrison (TC M G) being chased by John Panks (Sunbcam-Talbot), winner of the over 14-little production-car race

corner with Hayes and Hoan right on his tail, followed by the rest of the field, of whom Hanna (M.G. TD) performed a very wide slide. Goldman fell back to third spot on lap 1, letting Hayes and Hoan through Lap speeds increased and on the third Hoan edged past Hayes at Zag whilst Kerner's Singer sports, sounding and going really well, moved into four hiplace. The pace was terrific and on the fourth lap E.

Glowacke (Stata) fell out with transmission trouble whilst W. Huffman (M.G. TD) ran a bearing. Hayes



# RACING IN CANADA

1 Well-supported Event on Edenvale Airfield Circuit

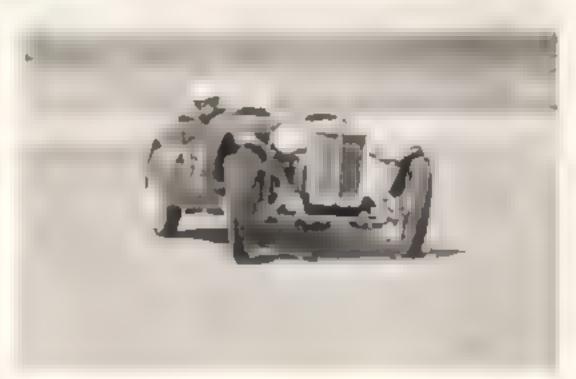
The Sports Car Club of Canada. Twith headquarters in Toronto, organized a sports-car race meeting on Saturday, 2nd August, at the Edenvale circuit, situated 75 miles north of the city. The track, with a width of 100 ft, and lap of 1.75 miles, was similar to the airfield circuits of Britain, and such remarks as "Pity it doesn't have a few more trees", "Why can't we have a real road circuit", were often overheard

The start and finish line lay halfway along the main straight, and from the start cars entered Grey Mare corner, leading to fast bends on the back straight through Brad's bend to Collins corner, a hairpin of 165 deg. From there were two stretches of 300 yards through Zig and Zag back to the straight and brush line

Racing commenced at 12 noon under a cloudless sky, while a moderate warm breeze, continuing for the rest of the day, contributed much to the success of the event All races were scratch, five-lap events, except the major event, the one-hour Le Mans Formula

Templar's Morris Minor pulled

Tommy Hoon, winner of the "One Hom vportical race, cornering with his very fast TC M G



out a lead from the start of Event 1, a race for cars up to 1,100 e.c., which he increased each lap, winning at 48 3 m p h. from F. Mallard and P. Dillnutt in similar cars

### TC Tussle

Event 2, for cars of 1,100-1,500 c.c., brought out a field of eight, and from the fall of the flag a race-long duel ensued between Tommy Hoan (M.G. TC) and Peter Hayes (M.G. TC), the latter a late entry. M.Goldman (Sizta) led into the first

was unable to catch the flying Hoan who led him across the line by 2 sees., averaging 62.00 m p h.

Charles Wheaton in his DB2 Aston Martin was favourite for Event 3 for ears of 2,000-3,000 c.c., and from start to finish led the field of six. Interesting was Panks's 2-litre Sunbeam-Talbot lapping at 59 2 m p.h., shead of W. R. Morrison's 1,400 c.c. supercharged M G TC, finally leading him by 4½ sees, for second place. Other Sunbeam-Talbots took fourth, fifth and sixth positions, their speeds of 51.2 m p.h. comparing with the 56.3 m p.h. of the winner

kerner's Singer once again showed what it could do by winning the under 1,500 c.c. production carrace from I Garrad in a Hillman Minx by 25 sees., and lapping, rather in cruising fashion, at 50 00 m p.h.

The fifth event was notable for the entry of J. W. Fergusson's Nash Rambler together with the Sunbeam-



C. F. Wheaton with his DB2 Aston Martin at Brad's Bend

# ULSTER SPEED SEASON CLOSES

### Baird (Ferrari) Equals Knockagh Record

was at least better than the unforgettable deluge at this year's Craigantiet, the
last speed event of the Ulster season
took place at Knockagh, Co. Antri
last Saturday. The Ulster A.C.'s
Knockagh event has always been a
popular "clubman's climb", but even the
organizing club was surprised to receive
a total of 50 main and secondary entries
the largest entry for any of the five

Northern Irish climbs held this year Hobbie Baird had brought both his 2.685 e.e. sports Ferrari and the Griphon Gryphon, Grithn, Griffen—he still hasn't decided!) to the paddock, but decided to use the more easily spelt motor-car: with it he equalled Christopher Lindsay's 1911 record of 594 sees, established with the then-blown Nufor", on his first competitive run His second sun was a determined attempt to regain the record, which he had previously held for two years, but an over-enthusiastic slide at the last bend spoiled his chances.

The first competitor to cross the starting line was Charles Maunsell (Hillman Minx), who clocked 88.8 secs. Later. Dr. W. N. Jones (Singer) achieved 87.4 secs but on its telephonic trip to the bottom of he hill to seek were recidentally added to this time. During the second runs Maunsell managed 87.8 secs., only to find that the class had, after

all, been wen by Jones
The large saloons followed, Bob
Chambers (Sunbeam-Talbot) setting 82.0
sect., Sidney Pentland (Citroen) 81.8
secs., and Dr. Geoff Houston (SunbeamInlbot) 79.2 secs. As the second attempts
took place on a wet road, these times
were not improved, leaving Houston
with the class trophy—a well-deserved
compensation for his hollow victory at
Craigantlet, when he was the only

entrant in this class!

There was never any doubt about the Victor in Class 3, once Malcolm Mactiregor (M.G. TC) had steamed up the hill in 73.4 secs., still finding time for his usual salute to your reporter as he passed. Brian McCaldin (TD) was second fastest with 76.0 secs., and of the other four TC conductors, the best was Harry Reilly with 77.6 secs. J Thompson (A40 Sports) made a climb with hood folded to 88 8 sees, and Emily Dowling (A40 Sports), with hood erect, returned NI 6 secs. - a performance which could scarcely be attributed entirely to reduced wind resistance. The large sports-cars followed. Baird equalling the record (59.4 secs.) on his first run with apparent case. Then, with feelings close to amazement, we saw the usuallyimpeccable Desmond Titterington overslide his J2 Allard at the first bend. endowing the nicely rounded tail with an end-of-season dent which seemed very out of place

Baird, too, got a wiggle on—in the less happy sense—during his second run, to record 60.2 secs., but Titterington could only manage 65.4 secs. Now it was time for the Almighty Ford, of which there were six straining at the leash—if one may include a Dellow Fastest of the Ford-powered Fords, so to speak, was Arthur Clapham's Kieft-sprung model, at 71.0 secs., while John McDonagh's

THE BAIRD

HOWLER is strapped in place, and

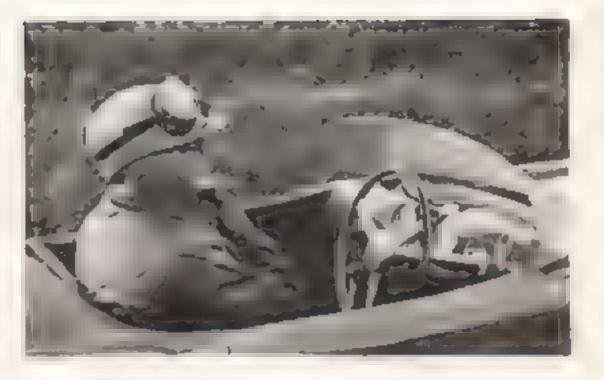
WRB takes the

27-lure Ferrari up

Knockagh Hill to

equal the course

record



Buckler achieved 73.4 secs. Billy I ceper's monoposto TC special registered 67.2 secs., but Ernest McMillen, "fighting every inch" in classic style, took the TC-powered "Nufor" up in 66 secs, to gain the lead in class and on handicap Which was just as well, for on his second climb the "Nufor" developed one of its not-infrequent rents in the gear bag

In the "racing" class Hubert Chambers clocked 616 sees with the Vauxball Special, from which time Redmond (vallagher removed 6 secs. with the "Leprechaun", and Marshall Watson. after a bout of clutch trouble, stalled the JP-Vincent on the line. Of the secondary entrants, the irrepressible David Arch baid all the line in the gear and a could of make with the Nut it only to about the bank eight heart by when he tried to take the bends in the same ratio. Ches I ndsay's his run in his blown Dellow occupied 598 accs., but his second ended in a fine display of waterworks as he crossed the finishing line with a blown gasket Then out came the tow ropes, and the lads went back to spanner heaving until next year

Wit sow McComb.

### RESELTS

thed Time of the Dupy Wr. R. Barrd (Ferrari) 99-8 steel fequals (second)

Class II (54d, closed, ander 1,300 e.c.): f. Dr. W. N. Jones (1.074 Street), ff. 4 secs. 2. C. W. B. Mauricell (1.265 H. Henand, ff. ft. secs.

Class 3 (5td, classed, over 1,300 p.c.ts Dr. G. W. Histotica, Charleson-Tabled), 79-3 eccs

Chee 3 (Sell, open, mater 8,300 e.c.): 1, R. M. D. MacGreyor (1.250 M.O.), 73.4 secs. 2, R. M. Calgin (1.250 M.O.), 76 secs.

Class 4 (4nd, open, ever 1,300 c.c.): 1, W R. Barrd (2,601 Ferrieri), 40 d tech 3, Z. D. Tstatringuo (3.5)? Allardi, 65.4 secs.

Class & (Open, non-rooting, under 1,300 e.c.); I F. T. McMillen (1,250 Nuffer ), 66 vecs 2, W Leeper (1,250 M G. StN ), 67 8 vecs

Clean & (Open, non-coring, over 1,366 d.c.): W. R. Barrd

Chan 7 (Open, Incl. rucingle L. W. R. Bard. 2 R. Gallagher (995 "Leprechaun"), 71 6 secs

Class & Consent Handstuph 1, 2, 7 McMilen reed 12 ness not true 54 seet, 2, W B. Baird reed, 4 sees, and B. M D. MacGregor, reed, 16 sees, set, time 55.4 sees, each.

### 750 CLUB SPRINTS

The Closed Invitation Speed Treats at Tarrant Rushion Airfield, near Blandford, organized jointly by the 750 and West Hants and Dorset Clubs, will be held on 26th October, on a 1-mile course invited clubs are BARC. Hants and Berks. Gosport A.C., Bristol M.C. and I.C.C., Half-Litre and Aston Mattin

### COVENIRY AND WARWICKS M.C.

The Winter Social season will commence at 8 p.m. on 6th October with a "Noggin and Natter" at the Hare and Squirret, Cow Lane

There will also be a dance at the Masonic Hall, Coventry, on 10th October. Tickets, price 10s, each, may be obtained from Mrs. E W Commander, & Andrews Road, Earlsdon, Coventry

# VINTAGE BENILEY EXHIBITION AT FILTON

The Story of the Bentley, in 12 easy tessons", was the keynote of an exhibition and demonstration given by members of the Hentley Drivers' Club, at the RAF Station, Filton, near Bristol, on the occasion of the Battle of Britain At-Home Day Display on 20th September, which had been arranged in co-operation with the Royal Air Force by the Mid-West Region of the BDC.

The actual exhibit consisting of 12 examples of the marque, ranged from the third production chause 3-life (1921), to the famous "Barnato-Hassan" 5-litre, and covered the entire range of vintage Bentley products.

During the day these cars were arranged in a special park for inspection by the public and proved a great attraction. Later in the day the care carried out a demonstration run, in farmation along the length of the Brahazon run way: "To the thunder of their exhausia was added the roar of the 'Brab' itself, as it slowly passed overhead; at that moment it was interesting to pender upon the numbers of b.h p being generated, both upon the ground and in the air!" At the conclusion of the formation run the cars returned singly to demonstrate their individual paces, but due to the vastness of the run-way, little impression of speed was given to the speciators, though several of the cars topped the "ton" during their

On returning to the car park, the drivers were met by the Air Officer Commanding No. 62 Group R.A.F., who inspected the cars. The Royal Air Force very kindly entertained the crews of these cars to tea during the afternoon, and later, to dinner and a party in the Officers' Mess, at Packlechurch R.A.F. Station, which was attended by a very large number of members, the car park being literally choked with Bentleys of every description.



# THE DE ROVIN

# A Small Sports-Car with Exceptional Roadholding, tried by Peter Collins

Peter Collins at Monthery with the little De Rovin

THE Bol d'Or is the ideal play-I ground for specials builders and crazy enthusiasts. All sorts of vehicles have been found guilty of lapping merrily round Monthery or St. Germain in the course of this gruelling contest. Therefore, the spectators were not surprised to see at the start of this year's event the very small de Rovin driven by Jean Bernardet, technical editor and road-lester of our contemporary l'Automobile. To attempt a 24-hours race single-handed (no relief drivers are allowed) on such a small car. particularly on the fast Monthery 6,281 km. track, bears the mark of undaunted enthusiasm and boundless. patience! As for the results, suffice to say that Bernardet enjoyed an almost trouble-free run to win his class and break the record at the average of 37 m.p.h. despite a longish pit stop due to an unsuspected broken H.T. wire.

This was, in fact, a "works" entry, specially prepared under Bernardet's expert guidance. Apart from external modifications like the removal of the windscreen and its pillar, the hood, and fairing of the headlamps, the engine has been worked on mainly for reliability and the lubrication line altered. Also there is a slightly raised compression ratio, a Solex double-choke carburetter and a special inlet pipe together with an almost "straightthrough" exhaust. Of course, there are different ratios from standard in the gearbox and back-axle casing, but it must be understood that this car is no real super-sports job. It does enjoy splendid roadholding, but the pulling from the flat-twin sidevalve engine is not startling. The appearance is quite amusing and the finish is very good for it will be on display on the Rovin stand at the "Salon de l'aute". Although a oneoff job, it is hoped to build a few replicas should customers be found

I thought it would be amusing to have the smallest actual sports racing-car in the world tried by one of Britain's fastest drivers, Peter Collins of the H W M, team. It was thus that, on a very windy afternoon Peter drove me to Montlhery where the small blue car awaited us. It was soon obvious that Collins knew his stuff. "I have never seen one of my cars going like that round a corner, and never more will I see it again," said Mr. de Rovin, son of the constructor! Unfortunately, owing to a badly-assembled carburetter pump the pick-up was rather poor; in fact, it was not even possible to put one's foot flat after a corner without risking "choking" the engine. Also the strong wind prevented the little machine from winding itself to maximum speed (72 m p.h.) on the "saucer". A very amusing experience, anyway!

GERARD CROMBAC

### Peter Collins's Impressions

N arrival I found a car even Usmaller than a Bond, emitting a noise normally associated with a lawn-mower or a milking machine. It was, however, very well finished and quite amazing in its simplicity. The first impression one has is the incredibly small size of the wheels. and to find out which is the front is a problem, both ends being pressed out by the same machine. Sitting in the car, however, one is rather surprised to find more room than one expects and the driving position is really comfortable. The only complaint about it is that the edge of the door comes rather close to the elbow. The starting control is a small lever which, together with the hand brake and gear-lever, is situated between the driver's and the passenger's seat. I found that all the instruments and controls, with

the exception of the gear-lever, were very well situated from the driver's point of view.

On the road this car hums along at quite a happy 50 m p.h. and I found the suspension was very comfortable, indeed. The steering is, I am inclined to think, a bit highgeared. I found myself looking forward to the first corner with a certain amount of trepidation and was rather surprised to find the roadholding of this little car exceptionally good, considering that it seems to possess quite an exceptional amount of oversteer, which is certainly derived from its rear-mounted engine. The car as a whole gives the impression, certainly not of fantastic speed, but definitely of complete anfety at the speeds within its capabilities. This is further confirmed by remarkably etherent brakes considering their size. The engine, although of a clever design is, I think, rather over-worked when accelerating and the car seems to spend agonizingly long periods in the indirect gears

However, I found that it certainly was a very amusing little car, very stable and manœuvrable for town work. The standard model is equipped with windscreen and hood of quite clever design, and is every bit as manœuvrable as its smaller British counterpart; the Bond

### Specifications and Performance Date:

Car desteds The ROVIN special \* Bot d Or Type Proc. alson soon or tr

Forgions The sound so flat them. To come a 60 come 462 to much values. Water window (Theorem 25 come at 4 come per 6.5.1

Live to the State State State Call and Success tenning

Transmissions Dry single-plate clutch, unit grapbox tear-engine, rear-wheel drive J-speed with central gear-lever, no synchrometh

Charaks Unit construction. Independent from suspension by two superimposed transverse leaf springs. Independent tear suspension, transverse wishbones and cost springs between throughout 2.70 a 90 tyres. Rack and princip scening.

Figure 12 volts lighting and starting speedometer water temperature gatate attimeter clock. Tonneau cover on passenger's reat. Single Perspea windscreen in feste of the driver.

Dimensional Wheelbase 6 h , track 3 h 2 his overall length 12 h; 4 ins : width 3 h; 9ms turning circle 12 h; weight, laden, 9 cwin

Performanced Maximum speed (with wind) 60 m.p.h. Average speed on Mossilhery, 91 km 456 m.p.h.).

# Correspondence

We are delighted to receive letters intended for publication. We do not insist on typewritten copy, but please write in a hand we can decipher, and on one side of the notepaper. The Editor is not, of course, bound to be in agreement with opinions expressed by readers, but this does not mean that subjects will be excluded on these grounds.

### Red Rug to a "Pampus Buit"

As one who acted as interpreter to Sr. Gonzalez at Goodwood, I must protest at the cartoon on page 402 of your issue of 26th September, in which a bull-fighter with a rod rag is shown to that Argentine driver as he passes the pits. It should be made clearly known that bull lighting is not practised in the Argentine and that such a pit signal would have no more significance to Fangio or Ganzalez than, say, a springbok displayed to an Australian driver or a kangaroo proffered to a South African competitor. These misconceptions are lamentably commonplace and reveal a disregard for national characteristics liable to promote animosity. An instance, though unconnected with motor sport, is the belief that the tango is a Spanish dance, whereas it originated in the Argentine and is no more practised in Spain than in England

I have seen Gonzalez's full name frequently misrondered in print and at might be as well to note that it is Jose Frodon Cronzález, he being known among his personal circle by his first onomastic equivalent to Joseph, or as Pepe, meaning Jos.

F. L. VERGARA,

LONDON, N.W. I.

IHe is the known in motor-racing circles as the "Passens Bull"—honey the costson.—Ed I

### B.R.M. as Advanced Trainer?

HAVEO followed these correspondence pages since the early days of AUTOMPORT, and even more closely since the BR M was "put up for sale", I am rather surprised that the suggestion which I wish to make now, has not been made before.

Why can't the BRM, be bought by the BRDC, RAC, A.A., S.MMT. (or what have you) for use as a training car for the vounger racing drivers of this country. The BRM supporters will say. "The BRM, as a back car—NEVER!" but I am a staunch BRM, supporter, and I feel that the car will be better used to train the young drivers for the future races, than to beat, easily, non-existent opposition

This country needs a full scale project to train the drivers and pit staff and to build a thoroughbred racing-car and surely, in this country, we have the people who are more than capable of doing these things.

I feel that Raymond Mays would be more than pleased to help in such a project, because I know he would feel it is another step towards putting Great Britain in the forefront of Grand Prix racing

As for the new Formula 1, the BR M episode has, I feel sure, whetted his appetite to put a British car consistently in the forefront. Make no mistakes, he will turn up again with a new car—and given a little more luck, and a lot less adverse criticism, it will be the world-beater that the present BR M might well have been

THOMAS C. MILES.

EDGWARE

### The Butterworth Engine-and Monkhouse Chassis

The fortunes of our various aspirants for Formula 2 racing honours have no doubt occupied the attention of many of us. It has been made abundantly clear that, although we have several able and enthusiastic constructors, and a number of talented drivers, both groups of which have done well this year, there is no power unit of British manufacture available, which will give them the final honours.

At least that is how it has appeared so far in practice, but there is one, which in theory at least, is capable of developing some hing i he the necessary bid p. I refer to the Bulletwich for which, in an article in Autosport (February, 1951). "JVB." had hopes of 180 b.h.p. This is getting near the mark!

Now a "flat" engine, as in the Butterworth, spells a rear-

engined car to me, not that I have any particular liking for the type, and, thinking of that, the Formula 2 car designed by the late Peter Monkhouse came to mind (AUTOSPORT, December, 1950). Our friend John Bolster thought quite a lot of this design at the time.

Could not the flat four-engine be used instead of the two Iwin Vincents as was proposed by Monkhouse, and a real challenger for GP, honours result? If it was successful it would be a good tribute to Peter Monkhouse, and success to "Archie" Butterworth, quite apart from putting this country in the position as a potent contender for Grands Prix.

Modifications would have to be carried out to the rear suspension with the change of engine and drive, and I should like to see the forward-located fuel tank put behind the driver, as on Auto Unions. No doubt also, would the drivers! In addition to lessening the danger aspect it would allow for better weight distribution as the tank emptied during racing the nose could take an oil cooler if it is necessary.

Such modifications might result in a car of longer wheelbase, and rear track, but that would not make for anything excessive as the original was very small for a 2-litre

K. J. BLYTHE.

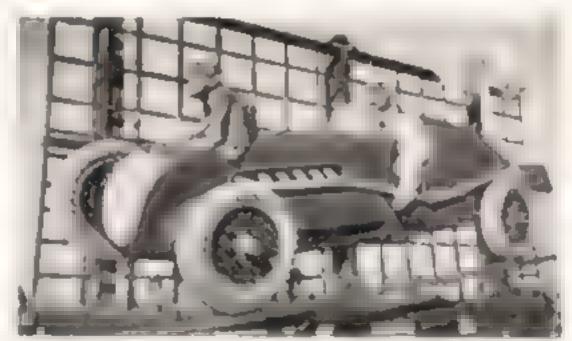
BOXMOOR, HERTS.

### Monkey Stable at Binckpool?

Wa have just visited the Blackpool and Morecambe Bluminations, and on our arrival at Blackpool were surprised to see a beautifully executed racing-car complete with two monkeys. As we know Michael Keen (co-driver to Jim Mayers in Goodwood Nine Hours) very well, it was rather funny to arrive up there and be reminded of home.

ANN PERKINS

HIGH WYCOSIDE



Blackpool Monkey-see letter from Ann Perkins.

### The Conference of Clubs

There is nothing new in Keith McDowall's letter (issue 19th September) regarding representation of small clubs on the R.A.C. Competitions Committee; in substance, many letters have been written on the same work and it was raised I believe, at the 1950 R.A.C. Conference of Clubs. Nevertheless, his point is a valid one insofar as pre-determination of policy is concerned and, on the assumption that he will represent the Singer O.C. at the forthcoming Conference at Pall Mall on 31st October, I suggest that he should frame a proposition based on the formation of Centres, as the A.C.U does, and subsequent representation of those Centres on the Competitions Committee. One of the main angle from his point of view is that such representatives would need to be financially independent and willing to travel as I feel sure that the Committee is a comparatively hard-working body

I await with interest to hear the outcome of such action on Mr. McDowall's part,

HON, JOINT PRESS SECRETARY, BRISTOL M.C. & L.C.C., LTD.

Buiston, 8

More Correspondence on page 443

### East Anglian Excellence—continued

"B" about 40 yards shead, reversing on right lock to stop astride line "C" which was a continuation of line "B" and finally accelerating forward to stop astride line "D", a continuation of the tlarting line. This test was to be used to decide the winners in the event of a tie on marks.

Best performances here were, Class I D. D. Bernard (Anglia), 18.4 secs. Class 2 and 3. J. Earl (Vanguard), 20.2 secs. Class 4. R. J. Randall (M.G. TC) 17.2 secs. Class 5; Alex Gordon (Plus-Four), 18 secs. dead. Class 6; Dennis Taylor (XK, 120), 16.4 secs.

The second test consisted of driving from line "A" forward about 50 yards, through a chicane, forward about 75 yards, found a pylon, retarning through the chicane to brake astride the finishing line, a continuation of the starting line. Time was taken as the front wheels crossed the finish with a penalty of 10 uses, for overshooting. This test caused much dicing and no little heartache for

those who overshot the finish, for the test was a fast one due to the distances involved

Best performances here were, Class J. D. Bernard (Anglia), R. Sidwell (1) M.G.) and S. D. Silverthorne (Anglia), 52 secs. dead. Class 2 and 3: D. J. Morley (Austin A.90) 51 secs. Crass 4. G. J. Greenhalgh (TD) 46 secs. Crass 5. Harry Suterific (Linzer Nash), 42 secs. Crass 6. Lew Tracey (NK 120) 45 secs.

The route now led back to Clacton the road into the town being well marked by Boy Scouts holding up arrows on each corner, and A.A. signs and policemen speeded drivers on their way. At the Unction control, competitors adjourned for lunch, after which there was to be

one more test.

A happy thought of the organizers provided real rivalry for this testsimplicated sheets wore handed out during the lunch break, giving the position up to the beginning of Test 3 and several interesting details came to light. A bonus system of marking was employed, bonuses being given on the road for doing various things correctly and class bonuses being given in the testa-fastest in class, 15 marks, second fastest, 10 marks and third fastest, 5 marks. The lunch time position showed that Harry Sutcliffe was leading with 135 marks and he only had to be third fastest in his class to get a five-mark bonus and be unbestable. The only other competitor capable of obtaining 140 marks was Lew Tracey who had, however, been slower than Sutcliffe on Test "A", the tre-decider

The last test was a complicated after indeed entailing a dead engine start two 75-yard sprints up a 7-foot wide channel, six changes of direction and stopping

astride a line. Phew!

There were some remarkable performances in this test-Bernard's speciacular handling of the Anglin (39.2 secs.) giving him a time only beaten by six competors including two XKs and an Allard? In the other saloon classes run together, fastest was Earl's Vanguard in 43.2 secs., Risk's Pilot (50 secs. dead), and Range's Riley (50.1 sees.) being next best. Among the small open cars, some of the MGs were really beautifully handled, C. A. Pilley's 38 sees, dead in the PC was only beaten by an XK 120 while Cyrel Wick's TD and R. J. Randall's TC ned for third. fastest of the day with 38.2 secs., a time equalled only by Dent's Allard

With the Class 5 runs, excitement

mounted. Times were getting faster, D. O. Hastings (Pius-Four), 42.3 sees.. A. J. Range (Pius-Four), 41.5 sees., Alex Gordon (Pius-Four), 40.5 sees, and then came Harry Sutchife. The immaculate white car snarled off the line but, as it stopped to reverse, a groan went up from the crowd as the engine stalled. The time (53.6 sees.) left Sutchife without a class bonus and with 135 marks.

Now came the real struggle. competitors could now win the rally, Harry Sutcliffe himself included. If Lew Tracey (125 marks) could be fastest in the class and get a 15-mark bonus, he would win the rally with 140 marks, and if Dennis Dent (120) were to be fastest and get the hir as he ere dit e Se cittle by win by he sign fastest in Test. A. It however the right as it of the were fastest be could if win the rain hat to condidaplace both Dent and Track for he cass win and at the same time if any other car in the class were to be faster than these three the whole cass position would change

And so they ran off the J2 Allard (52.5) the K2 (43.2) and Jacobs' NK (98) Now cance Dennis Taxor Lee laguar mared off flashed through the test magn ficent's driven to record 316 sees easily the fastest so far. Next I ew fraces a beautiful start typical of a trials driver, into the constant changes of direction and the engine stated lew recovered quicks and went on 39 secu-Falland Denn's Dent (Allard) dead 4 scater) The big green car fled down the course to record 38.2 sees second to Las or Now there was no one who could bear 5 iteliffe and it no one else in the case could beat Traces a time there would be a triple tie on marks for the class prize. O Is two more competitors Alstein & Alk dashed off and (i) Ro returned 47 sees dead. The crowd held its collective breath as did the drivers at yellyed last man was harquharson (NK 120) Away he went yets fast indeed next's through the necessary gyrations and over the line overshot; time, 38 3 secs, plus a 10 secs penalty. And so with Taylor (135) getting 15 bonus, Dent (120), 10 bonus, and Traces 1 25), 5 marks how is there was a frip's the on marky at 36 for the Gass. What about the times in the tic decider? fayor's and Dent's road books both showed 166 sees, which looked he anorner is but reference to the nucaccepts sheet in less A showed The or a figure as 16.4 sees, and so he were the case an excent finish indeed A d so to fest sites and hed

The next morning, brilliant sunshine greeted the competitors in the Concound Elegance, held on the front at the entrance to the pier. Milling crowds, shining circular music from the loud speakers lent a Coranenta atmosphere to the proceedings is the judges began the very different task of browing the winners.

In the class for pre-1941 open cars, the decision went to the beautifully kept vintage Bentley of C. C. Wells (3-litre chassis, 44-litre engine) and, there being no entries for the pre-1941 closed class, a special prize was given to C W Amey's magnificently rebuilt M-type M G.

The prize for the best post-1941 closed car went to Miss C. M. Kirk's green 13-little Riley and that for the best post-1941 open car to Alston's lovely blue XK 120, complete with fitted cocktail cabinet, first-aid kit, twin acrials on the

rear bumper brackets and many other refinements.

As the winners were announced, they drove their ears through a lane in the crowd and were interviewed over the P.A. system to the huge delight of their fellow-competitors. And so to the prize giving in the Town Hall, presided over by the Charman of the Cacton Council whose gracious lady kindly presented the prizes

That, then, was the 1952 Clacton Rally, easily the best of the series and an augury of good things to come.

"Anthony Peters

### RESELTS.

Clacton Challenge Trophy and Replica II

No. 17: Easy in 135 marks

Arthur J. Greene Challenge Trophy and Replica

for Navigator of whadag cars Mrs. 11 has

Exis Collegity Memorial Trophy and Replica

flical performance is a 4 M c. Member. I

hasciffe (France Nach)

### Flavo America

Cham by 7 M, Shand (Peugeot 203), 110

7 M St f M K it it it's R sect 100

Cham 3: J Lab (Atsociated Vanguard), 974

Cham 3: J R St J 1 Pilot), 1025

Chase 4: J R J Randull (M Q ), 130, 2, C

Chase 5: R St 105

Chase 6: D O M Labor Charact 5: K 201 15

Team Amonth I / Cannes E J Train Jaguer I D O M T. of Clare and H Nor off-Crater No. 6 F a. of 34\*

### CASTLE COMBE TOMORROW

THE Bristol M.C. and L.C.C.'s race meeting at Castle Combe, near Chippenham, Wilts, has attracted a very fine entry of cars and drivers. Stirling Moss (ERA, (1-1)pe), Ken Downin, (Connaught), Ken Wharton (Frazer-Nav. and ERA), Whitehead (Alta), Peter Walker (Cooper E.R.A.), Isn Stewart (Ctype Jaguar), Jack Fairman (Allard), Bob-Gerard (ERA.), Ninian Sandorion Cooper Bristoli Ken McAlpine (Conhaught) and Oscir Moore (HWM-Jaguar) wife all he there. The 500 e.c. race list contains most of Britain's Formula 3 stars, including Don Parker, Stirling Moss, Stuart Lewis Evans, Bob. Gerard, John Coombs, Paul Emery and André Locas

### The meeting begins at 1 30 pm

### LEINSTER M.C. VETERAN RUN RESULTS

Name Trophy (Best mechanical and conclined) preservations: D. Otters (1895 Arrol-Johnston 12 h.p.).

Goff Cup (Best up to 1904): D. Dick son (1901 Do Dion 8 hp.)

Briggs and McCrae (up (Best 1905 to 1911); T G Wells (1911 Belsize 11 hp) Findlater Cup (Best 1912 to 1918); M O'Brien (1912 Ford 24 h.p.).

Semper Idem Cup (Best 1919 to 1925) D. F. Ryder (1920 Singer 10 h.p.),

Hard Luck Trophys J. C. Millard (1913) Wotseley 21 h p.b.

Cup for the Best Crew (Costumes, etc.): J. C. Millard (1913 Wolseley 21 h.p.),

Cup for the Second Best Crew (Contumes, etc.): H. J. Roe (1911 Rolls Royce 49 h.p.).

Cup for Best Ludy's Costume, etc.: Mrs. O'Brien.

Cup for Best Gent's Costume, etc., Dudley Colley

(Report will be published next week)

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# NEWS FROM THE CLUBS

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### SINGER RALLY AT BENHILL

Dauzzis before 7 a.m. and fine weather before II a.m was the order of the day on 21st September, when competitors sel out from their respective homes to travel to Beahill at a set average speed and to arrive not later than mid-day Everyone arrived at Bexhill on time, with muttered comments "too easy" "Wish I had raised my average apped". "Did you see the secret check?", etc. When, however, the results of the road tection were made known, certain faces took a definitely reddish hue, for on the secret check section between Horsebridge and Bekhill, the invisible marshall and his aides had done a lot of mathematical calculations which proved that some members had exceeded their averigo speed on this section by as much as 8 mph with consequent his of feares and some control larkers fiking their cisting in the precincts of Bestis, were I kew so penalized. After the serutaneer ing in the car park some fol club members sat down to lanch in the De La Warr Pavilion Restaurant, with the Mayor and Mayoress as principal guests After a speech of welcome to Bexhill by the Mayor, he presented the Regn's Irophy to the Club on behalf of the donors, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Whitmarsh After lunch the six driving tests took place in the car park, with about 1,000 spectators enjoying the fun, although one very heavy shower of rain caused competitors and spectators alike to take shelter

During the tests the "tyre screechers", although spectacular, did not always put up as good a time as the "careful men in the "clover leaf" test, where the competitors were required to encircle four pylons, puts over a metal disc with their nearside front wheel, and come to rest with all four wheels on two parallel planks, there were only three competitors

who had clean sheets.

The final test finished at about 5 to p.m., after which ten was taken, while the "back room" boys juggled the figures to produce the results, which were as follows

1, A. S. Bennett (1936 1]-litre Le Mana) (Winner of Regnis Trophy); 2, R. T. Davis (1934 9 h p. Le Mans 4-str.) (list Class Award); 3, J. S. Richmond (1939 Roadster) (Winner of Roadster Award) 4, P. G. Champion (1932 M-type M.G.) (2nd Class Award)

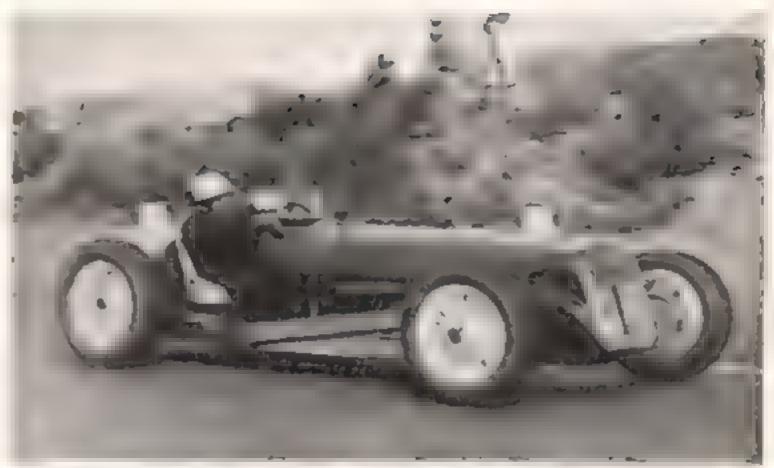
### MAIDSTONE AND MID-KENT C.C.

The Maidstone and Mid-Kent Car Club are holding their minth Annual Dinner and Dance at the Tudor House Bearated, near Maidstone, on Friday, 14th November, 1952

Tickets at 25s each can be obtained from the Social Secretary: V. G. M. Butler, 14 Queens Road, Maidstone Phone: 86402.

Early application is advisable for this

popular event



TRYING HARD: Eric Thompson in Rob Walker's Delage Special at Snetterton, in hot pursuit of Barber's winning Cooper-Bristol at the A M O C.'s recent meeting

### MERCEDES-BENZ (10 h

FOLLOWING upon the succensful Railies held recently, a further Raily will be held at The King's Arms Hotel, Lion Gate, Hampton Court, on 11th October, from 7:30 p.m. The King's Arms Hotel is situated close to the Lion Gate, opposite Bushey Park entrance on A 108 Kingston-Staines Road (Hampton Court Road)

Members requiring dinner please book in advance direct to the hotel (Telephone Malayer 1317)

Molesey 1337).

of the 1912 Le Mana 24 Hour Race Film as soon as it is released

### LIVERPOOL M.C. OCTOBER NIGHT RALLY

SUPPLEMENTARY Regulations are now out for the Liverpool Motor Club's Night Rally, which will start at Liver pool and be run over a route of approximately 200 miles in the Mid- and North Lancashire area on 18th 19th October The finish will be in the Preston district

Entries at 15t, close on Wednesday 15th October, and are limited to the first 50 received, but team entries may be made up to the time of the start. The four classes are for ears up to and over 1,500 e.c., Open and Closed, with blown cars up to 14-litres being permitted to compete, but in the larger class.

Secretary of the Meeting is It I Hall, 15 Plemont Road, Stoneycroft Liverpool, to whom any enquiries should be addressed.

### FALCON M.C. COTSWOLD RALLY

STARTING from The Chalet, Mardley Hitl, Welwyn, on 21st September, the Falcon MC held their first Cotswold Rally. This event was based upon the half-day Rally held last year, but had been expanded to a full-sized event of some 200 miles, and while the average speeds were no more than 30 m.p.h. the road-section was by no means easy

The route took competitors through Aylesbury to the first time check between Bicester and Chipping Norton, then competitors had to map-read their way through Moreton-in-the-Marsh to the next time check and first test. This involved accelerating from line A over line B, turning round in a narrow road and returning to line A

The next test was a simple stop and restart on a 1 in 4 hill near Winchoombo, after which competitors were faced with a Colonial section similar to some of the observed sections used in M.C.C. events upon the steepest part of which, again 1 in 4 gradient, competitors were required to do a double stop and restart.

The final test was a very interesting one involving two hairpin bends on a fairly steep gradient, which were separately timed, and upon which competitors lost one mark for each fifth of a second variation in the two times, further interest being added to this by the fact that ties were to be decided by the fastest aggregate.

After this there was one more time check near Tring before the finish back at Mardley Hill

### RESULTS

Rest Performance: P. Harper (Hillman)

Best Class 1 (under 1,100 c.c. closed):
M. Lawrence (Austin)

Best Class 2 (under 1,100 c.c. open): P Fibra (Morris Minor),

Best Class 3 (over 1,100 e.c.): C J Abbott (Allard).

Souvenir Awards: R. Randall (M.G.), J. T. Peake (Scarlet Runner)

### FURNESS D.M.C.

The Autumn Consistency Trial of the Furness District M.C. was run over 60 miles of lanes on 21st September. All 26 entrants completed the course

### RESULTS

Premier Award: C. Jarvis

Runner-up and Ladies' Award: Mrs. Back.

Second Class Award: J. Smetton Third Class Award: D. Gorst,

Team Award: Mrs. Buck, A. Harley and F. A. Love.



# SAUCE FOR THE GOOSE

### L.A.C. Competitors Organize Another Trial for Officials

It was early in 1951 that Ernie Robb of the Ulster A.C. first decided to incite a band of regular competitors to arrange a trial for the club's officials; to bis surprise (for they laid on a tough onc). the officials flung aside their stop-watches with almost indecent haite, rushed to borrow suitable vehicles, iwang gleefully into action, and clamoured for more when it was all over. So another "Officials' Trial" took place before the year was out, and a third was held last Saturday. The standard of driving, and of organization, suggested that these greybeards can still twiddle a nimble steering-wheel, and if the competitors of today are the officials of tomorrow, the Ulster club has nothing to fear from the future.

Newtownards airfield not being available, the trial commenced with a short but tricky road section to Maghaberry Airfield, where most of the driving tests were set out. Nineteen starters left Belfast, searching for a checkpoint near Lambeg, followed by a control at Aghalislone, Bob Henry, however, drunk with ecstasy in a borrowed H.R.G., made a beefine straight for the control, then had to put in some even faster motoring when realization dawned. Ted Hayes (Austin) was penalized for approaching the check from the wrong direction, and five competitors were late at the control

At the first test, a "see-saw" on a hill Hugo Wilson (Todd Special) started the way he meant to go on by setting the fastest time. After a little more navigation to the airfield, he was again fasteat in a complicated "cross-roads", which various entrants attempted in a variety of ways, but with less success. At the third test, a pair of channels in the form of a cross, he scored another victory, with Henry Catchpole (TD MG.) and Hugh Bryson (Dellow) tying for second place. It was the tame story at Test 4. an affair of garaging, but Bryson defeated. him at last-by 0.4 sec.-in the fifth, the double pylon which is a familiar feature of the Circuit of Ireland.

Test 6 was a novel one, involving the negotiation of the letters U, A and C. marked out with cars on the runway Denis Boyd, however, came to an involuntary full-stop between the initials when the Todd-Humber Special developed a puncture (impulse to refer to punctuation successfully resisted) Hugo Wilson was, of course, fastest in this and in the final test, the circling of three pylons. But when the field returned to Test 2 to have another attempt at each, he registered a slower time before getting into his stride again. Bryson forged ahead with a neat 43 secs., and Dr. J. F Bereen clocked an astonishing 43.8 seek, lifting one wheel of Jim Dowling's Ford Utility high in the air as he did so. Other contestants in the saloon class could not touch the performance of the deceptively docile-looking Ford (whose engine is said to be Smyth-tuned), but last year's winner of this category, Jack Kirkwood (Morris Minor), was having a private battle with Autosport's Wilson McComb, similarly

After a meal at the Woodbourne Hotel Suffolk, the final touch of good organization was provided by the distribution of stencilled results soon after 8 p.m. The company was delighted to observe that Wilbert Todd, now recovering from a recent operation, was there to see his car win, and to welcome as runner-up Hugh Bryson, a founder member of the 27-year-old club. Wit son McComp

### RESULTS

Open Car Classe I, W. H. Wilson (Todd Special), 387 2 marks lost, 2, H. A. Bryson (Dellow), 418 8; 3, C. G. Neill (TD M G ), 464.2

Closed Car Chan; 1, Dr. J. F. Bereen (Ford Utility), 469 6, 2 J. A. Kirkwood (Morris Minor), 476 4; 3, F. W. McConib (Morris Minor), 489 6

The "Competitors' Cup": W. H. Wilson-Runner-up: H. A. Bryson.

Ladies' Print: Mrs. H. J. Catchpole (Ford), 669.2 marks lost.

Healey Estate car owned by U.A.C. Hon, Sec. Gordon Neill, being driven by Mrz. Neill at Maghaberry Airfield, in the "Officials' Trial", whilst Harvey McWhir clicks the watches

### DISABLED DRIVERS RALLY

The Duabled Drivers' Club, now over 600 strong, held their first Rally at Comber's Meadow, Handcross, Sussex, on Sunday, 14th September. Coorganizers of the event were the Handcross Motor Sports Club and the Crawley and District M.C.C.

A varied programme of driving tests were devised, including garage reversing accurate parking, height judging and slow driving, and both legless and handless drivers achieved them successfully Iwenty-five members took part in the tests, W. J. Hindes (Dellow) winning the Rally Tankard for Best Performance with 52 points, to 48 points secred by the runner-up, C. W. Lane (Austin). R. Densham (Invacar) and Hindes tied in the high speed "wiggle woggle" test, in which Jack Sears put up a stirring drive with the 1914 T.T. Sunbeam.

### RESULTS

Best Performance: W. J. Hindes (Dellow), 52 pts

Second Best Performance: C. W. Lanv. (Austro), 48

Best Performance, Ludy Drivers: Mrs. Horton (Mortis), 31

Treasure Hunt: 5 E Sears

# THE CUMBERLAND SPORTING C.C.S. SECOND FESTIVAL RALLY

STARTING from Carlisle, competitors followed a route through the lakes and the border counties for 165 miles, the 30 entrants climbed Honister, Newlands and Whinlatter Pass, and on to a lunch stop near Penrith. In the afternoon the route went north to Penton and Canon-bie to the finish in Rickerby Park, Carlisle. Only two competitors failed to complete the course, although a great number were heavily penalized for getting ahead of time and running into secret checks.

### REST LTS

1, Bobbie Dickson (Vanguard); 2 H E. Couzens (M G ); 3, G, D, Frankland (M G ); 4, J R Robinson (Hillman Mins)

### SUNBEAM REGISTER

THE annual rally to Sandhurst on 21st September included a Concours d'Elegance, judged during a parade on the Old Building Square at the Royal Military Academy, and a series of driving tests prepared and marshalled by Officer-Cadets under the efficient direction of Capt. B. Wood. An entry of 21 Wolverhampton-built Sunbeams was received.

### RESULTS.

Concours: John Hampton (1912-12-16-2-scater).

Tests: 1, E. A. Price (1926-20 tourer), 989 marks; 2, 5, Darbishire (1926-14-40 tourer), 975; 3, L. A. C. Dopping-Hepenstal (1929-16 coupé), 972.

Mare News from the Clubs on page 444

### Correspondence—continued

### Juan Manuel Fangio

THE letter from Sir James Scott Douglas, Bart, (issue dated 19th September), has indeed put into print what motor

racing enthusiasts everywhere must have thought

To know that Juan Manuel is about again is the best news for weeks. His 1951 World Championship, coming as it did in the face of such tremendous opposition, must rank as a classic of all time, for we must remember that not only was he ranged against Ascari, Villoresi and Gonzalez, mounted on cars which had at long last found the measure of the Atla, but also I suppose he was still second string to his team-mate, Farina

R SHOEN

ROLAND E BAYES.

### London Rally

I am pleased to inform you that my accident in the London Raily was not as serious as your reporter suggested. My co-driver had a cracked rib and I dislocated my shoulder

I should like to thank those who gave or offered assistance and also the organizers and officials of this excellent event

CHELTENHAM A. E. TUMIN

### Make Triain Care More Like Sports-Care

In his article (Autospore, 26th September, 1952) Mr. Wharton seems to think that those who have advocated a change in the trials regs have a grudge against him personally and all other victors in trials. The inference is that people have been campaigning for a change in the regs which, they hope, will benefit themselves to the detriment of the regular winners of trials. Whatever the regs in force, whether the old or the new, or just a free for all, it will always be the best combination of man and machine that features in the awards lists

I fully agree with your Editorial in the same issue that "petty-mindedness, jealousy, incessant grumbling and so on, have no place in our sport". The advocation of a change in the regs has been put forward by many people with a genuine desire to keep the sport alive and to widen its appeal. It has been pointed out (and admitted) time and again, that the entry lists in trials are getting smaller and the reason is not that people are getting tired of the same names continually appear ing in the awards lists, but that the type of "special" which is common in trials at present is usclass for anything olse, a factor which also has to be taken into account when considering expenses for a whole year. Some people will, no doubt, accuse me of harping on an old theme, but I see no reason why a trials motor should not bear a much closer resemblance to an ordinary sports-car, and for that reason I have supported the campaign for new regs. Trials are, after all, one form of sport to be indulged in with motor-cars to if a car is called a "sports" car it ought to be able to indulge in all forms of the sport—I pity the individual who would enter a "sports" car in a present-day trial

Mr Wharton goes his reason for adopting a tracket for his trials car, and therein lies a good reason for modified regs if the regs had been laid down so that a special had to conform with orthodox layout, he would have found that he would have had room for dry clothing behind the seats, and that with a full width screen and proper weather equipment his journey from Bristol to Sheffield would have been in comfort. (I completed the MCC. Daily Express Rally, and many other long-distance railies and trials in my RBW last year in complete comfort and without getting wet.)

The new regs will, I hope, eliminate the absolute freak vehicle, but I note with regret that the seating position is still to be allowed as far back as before, so that the trials car will still be of little use in any other form of sport

LUTON. ROBIN N. RICHARDS

### Those Mysterious Fins

Mast readers have written so Automout asking the purpose of the triangulated fins behind the front wheels which are found on several racing-cars today. These are merely anti-splash guards, and were believed to have been introduced by Alfa Romeo on the Type 159 on the suggestion of Felice Bonetto. On a wet circuit, they are extremely effective in preventing mud and spray being flung up by the front wheels, and possibly obscuring the driver's vision. They have been used on BRM, Ferrari, HWM, HAR, and others.—En



MOTOR OIL

FUEL BY SHELL

News from the Clube-continued

# OXFORD UNIVERSITY MOTOR DRIVERS' CLUB

This club is open to past and present members of the University, both owners and non-owners of vehicles, who have a genuine interest in motoring of any type. Regular meetings are held every Thursday during term at the "Dolphin and Anchor", which is attuated near Folly Bridge.

The programme for the coming Trinity Term includes talks by several well-known motoring personalities, an annual dinner and film-show, a Closed Handicap Rally on 23rd November and invitations to compete in several events. The Hon, Sec., whose address is Jesus College, Oxford, would like to hear from prospective members who are desirous of competing in the Inter-Variity Rally on 25th/26th October, so that teams may be formed.

New members are urgently required in order that the club may continue to exist. The subscription rates are sentry fee, 10s. Annual Sub. for "Veteran" Members and 5s. Terminal Sub. for those who are "Up" at Oxford.

### EASTERN COUNTIES M.C. SPRINTS

A spant meeting will take place at Spetterton on 4th October, on a half-mile straight. This will be run under an R.A.C. closed permit and supplementary regulations are available from H. F. Mar and, 28x Church Serces Woodbridge Suffolk.

### SOUTHSEA M.C.

The draft regulations for the Inter-Feam Trial on 5th October were submitted to the R.A.C. for approval, but no confirmation was received in time to organize the event. In consequence if has been postponed pending notification from the R.A.C.

# CORNWALL COUNTRY RAILY (28th September)

### PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Open Cars: I, W. G. Brand (Healey), 49.7 marks lost, 2, S. G. Guttridge (AFS), 49.9; 3, W. Marett (Singer), 50.6 Closed Cars: I, L. Chard (Ford), 48.5, 2, A. Sandicott (M.G.), 54.2 3 ( Parsons (Ford), 58.4

### LAGONDA CLUB

Enterry-two Lagondas assembled for the Annual General Meeting and Concours d'Elegance at Thame. The Prix d'Honneur was won by J G Vessey's 1922 11.9; the 2-litre class by J. Hobly's 1932 2-litre, and the spen class by Freeman Wright's 1937 41 Rapide. At the AGM, the total membership was announced at 525. The spares registrar, Ivan Forshaw, told members that he had written no less than 1,700 letters in the previous year. The Club Officers were re-elected with the exception of Judlere I sher who announced his resignation from the coub-The new Competition Sections will be Sud-Leader 5 Wrestand Welch M R C S 124 Clarence Crate Crardens N W 1

### COMING ATTRACTIONS

October 4th. Bristol M.C. and L.C.C.
National Roce Meeting, Castle
Combe, near Chippenham, Wilts
Start, 130 p.m
Waterloo and District M.C. Special
Trials, Altear Rifle Range, Hightown, near Formby. Start, 2 p.m
Lancs A.C. Davis Trophy Trial
Armagh and District M.C. Trial,
Co. Armagh
Leinster M.C. Vigeol Cup Trial
Eastern Counties M.C. Speed Trials,
Snetierton
Berkhamsted M.C. and C.C. Speed
Party, Tewin Water

October 4th 5th. Vintage S.C.C., Welsh Rally, Presteign, Radnor-chire

B.A.R.C., (S.W.) Rally, N. Devon. Start, Little Testwood Country Club, Totton, near Southampton, 9 a.m. Finish, lifracombe Hants and Berks M.C., Night Navi gation Rolly Start, Eleot Park, Newbury Buth Road Fernie C.C., Trial, Cotswolds. Riley M.C., Rally, Lake District Cambridge 50 C.C., Night Trial S. Caernaryonshire M.C., Rally, N. H. ales.

October 5th. Coupe du Salou (S. T.), Montihery, France. Giro d'Itulia (S. T.), Italy. Blackburn Welfure M.C. Ruce Meeting, Brough, E. Yorks, Start, 12.30 p.m. Hagley and District L.C.C. Trial, W orev N. Devon M.C. Trial, N. Devon. Civil Service M. Amociation Trial, Wolseley Hornet Special Club Midland Rally, Atherstone Airheid near Stratford-on-Avon. Il am Horsham and District M.C. and LC.C. Juckson and Latilla Cups. Trial, Petworth, Susiex. Aston Martin O.C. Surrey Rally and Treasure Hunt. Starting point. "Whyte Harte", Bletchingley

October 9th, Jersey M.C. and L.C.C. Sprint Meeting, St. Ouen sunds.

### MORGAN 44 CLUB

The second annual night rally will take place on 29th 30th November There will be four starting points, namely, Heriford, Gloucester, Manchester and Buston-on-Trent. All routes will converge on Lescoster

The second annual driving tests will happen on 12th October, at the Pershore CWS. Lorry Park, Pershore, Worcz.

### NORTH MIDEAND M.C. TRIAL

A SEMI-SPORTING trial for standard sports-cars and saloons, over a route which is entirely non-damaging, is the fare for members of the North Midland M.C. in the Hopkinson Cup Trial which starts from the Devonshire Arms Hotel. Baslow, at 2.30 p.m. on Sunday, 19th October. The course is under 40 miles long and driving tests are to be kept to a minimum. A good entry is anticipated in the two classes—Open Cars and Saloons, and besides the Hopkinson Cup

for Best Performance of the Day, there is the Harrison Trophy for the best car in the opposite class. There are also awards for second and third in each class. Provisional results will be announced shortly after the finish, which is also at the Devonshire Arms.

Entries (not later than 17th October) to the Secretary of the Meeting, R. C. G. Costigan, of 175 Somersall Lane, Walton,

Chesterfield

### HANTS AND BERKS DRIVING TESTS

On Sunday, 12th October, the Hants & Berks M.C. will hold a Driving Test meeting at California-in-England, near Wokingham. Berks, commencing at 11 a m.

### BOREHAM MEMBERS' MEETING

On Saturday, 18th October, the Boreham three-mile circuit will be the scene of the West Ewex CC's first Members' meeting, comprising a series of five-lap races for saloons and sportscars.

Entries must reach F G, Crossley, c/o 179 Chigwell Road, South Woodford, London, E 18, by 11th October

### B A R.C. (S.W. CENTRE)

Finishing point for the North Devon Rally on 4th/5th October will be lifracombe, and not Bideford as announced.

### MID-CHESHIRE C.C.

Proper attendances at recent standard car trials organized by the Mid-Cheshire C.C., prompted the club to put on a half-day outing with a number of tests not involving a time factor, to encourage entrants who are apparently frightened off by the name "Irial". This was called a Mystery Run, and so successful was it that a more ambitious and similar event will be staged on 26th October, in place of the Standard Car Trial already booked for that date.

### CLUB PIXTURES

West from C.C. Status to Oct. by Ye Olife form 2001

Comman Sintage CC Shops I the quality of the property of the p

Bentles D.C. (Sid West) Mr. 2 4 (S.1 Aer. B. ) 4 m 7

Wesh Counties C.C. Mr. Tal. B. October Nobert H. & No. March Mick. Sta. 7

750 M.C. Michies and I for St. w. 6 h. Liber. Attended to the art R. in St. orthoge. Park N.W. II

Wolseley Hornet Spl. Club. Meeting 6th October Railway Tavern, Bollo Lane. Chiwick 7:30 p.m. Mintage S.C.C. Second United Meeting, 9th Ch. Ster. Man. d. No. 6 R. a. L. a. Chach. St. vol. Bon. Chach. Morthern. Section, The

Si vet Bor - Faith Morthern Section, The Wheatsheaf Bar & Death white Sunbon Talk b So Retter Dr. Jeath Officer 9th Oct per R & Head

### News from the Clubs-continued

### PLY MOUTH M.C.

The Combined "Marina and Turnbull" Challenge Trophy Irials, for Standard Production Saloon Cars, were held by Plymouth Motor Club on 21st September, in conditions which led to the competitors arriving at the final check point at Slapton, with their vehicles mudbeapattered and shorn of the pristine beauty displayed at the start, at Central Car Park, Plymouth

Just enough rain had fallen overnight to make some parts of the course decidedly tricky, and sa one or two of the hills used are noted for their unpredictable condition, considerable skill was necessary to climb successfully

The three driving tests, cunningly placed to make the most of awkward corners and gradients took their toll of failures, but with tea at Siapton, an always popular rendezvous, most drivers struggled on

### RESULTS.

"Marina" Trophy (Best Standard Production Sports Car); W. C. Marett (Singer Roadster), 66 marks decided on special test

Runner-up: L. B. Fredman (Singer-Roadster), 66.

Class II Award: A. L. Chard (Ford-saloon), 65

"Turnbull" Trophy (for saloon cars)
A. L. Chard, 65, Mrs. J. M. Hussell, 63,
B. K. Harper, 55

Winning Teamt L. B. Fredman, W. Roseveare, W. C. Marett

### PLYMOUTH "200"

Prymot He motor criss 200' Challenge Trophy Tr at has now been definitely fixed for 16th November and the Car Competition Committee are sitting with account on heads, organizing and trying to find a suitable course for this B T D A event. Regulations can be obtained from the new Car Competition Secretary. I. B. Fredman, 91 Efford Road Plymouth.

The Annual Dinner, Dance and Presentation of Awards will take place on 5th December, and the last event of 1952 the "Mancunian" Trophy fully sporting-car trial, 14th December

### JERNEY 50-MILE RACE

The Jersey M.C. & L.C.C. have been fortunate this year in having good weather for all of their events. The sand race meeting at St. Ouen on 25th September saw the first break in their run of luck. A south-westerly wind of almost gale force blew throughout the event. Miniature sandstorms swept across the course, blinding spectators and stinging the faces of the drivers. The cars also suffered and pit stops were frequent

Conditions did not improve and when the "50" Mile Car Race started the weather was at its worst and for a short period rain fell making driving an arduous business. The drivers did their best, most did better than they expected, and the spectators—of whom there was an extremely large number—must have been filled with admiration. Wet sand pulling at the wheel, blinding sand from the car in front, fighting all the time and trying to go faster and faster. It was certainly a fight against odds?

There were 15 cars to the massed start and as they waited there was a full, the wind seemed to hold itself, but not for long, as the cars streaked away the wind lifted the surface of the sand and cars disappeared from sight. Here and there a bonnet could be seen, drivers with their faces covered by goggles and hand-kerchiefs peered forward, urging more and more speed.

Frank le Gallais, in his Sand-hopper, was scratch and really set a scorching pace, as also did W. D. W. Knight (L.T.S.I.), also from scratch. First car to hit trouble was W. J. Reynolds (Taylor Special), but high-speed pit work quickly got the car back on the circuit. Other cars soon called at the pits; some remained, others went on

Amongst those who were going

extremely well was B. J. Jones (Jaguar Special), who had previously won this race in 1948, 1950 and 1951, three times out of four attempts and a firm favourite for the 1952 race.

Frank le Gallais, who had really got the best out of his car, was forced to retire at half-distance. W D. W Knight retired with engine trouble after 40 laps

The field had thinned out under the gruelling pace. W. Atluto in his A.F.S. he d the lead for some time, but eventually lost it to D. J. Vardon (V.M. Npe. at). B. J. Jones then held second place. P. Chapman (Austin) also passed Atluto to take third place.

### RESULTS

[three laps credit]; 2, B. J. Jones (1,776) Jaguar Special) (two laps credit]; 3, P. Chapman ("4" Austin) [four laps 4, W. Alato the "2 A F S) (seven hips) 5, J. Gray (747 Austin) [nine laps]

### "AUTOSPORT" DIRECTORY OF THE CLUBS-14

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(Founded 1912 as Cyclecar Club, later Junior Car (Jub)



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Chairman: Professor A. M. Low, D.Sc., A.C.G.1

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General Secretary: H. J. Morgan, British Automobile Racing Club, 55 Park Lane, London, W I. Telephone: GROsvenor 447) 2

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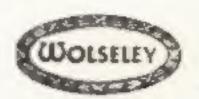
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